ILLINOIS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

PRODUCTION NOTE

University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign Library
Large-scale Digitization Project, 2007.

JOB COMPLETION REPORT

FUR HUNTER/TRAPPER SURVEY

As Required By

FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION ACT

ILLINOIS

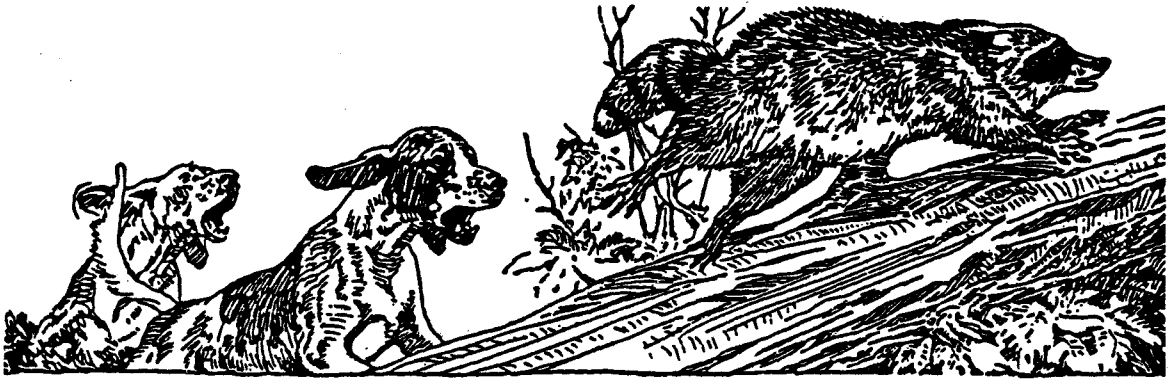
Federal Aid Project Number: W-112-R-3

Study I: Surveys of Hunters/Trappers Via Mail-Letter Questionnaire

Job No. 2: Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey, 1992-93

Prepared by:

William L. Anderson, Linda Campbell



Brent Manning, Director

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

15 April 1994

Mike Sweet
P-R Coordinator

Jeffrey M. Ver Steeg, Chief
Division of Wildlife Resources

JOB COMPLETION REPORT

WILDLIFE HARVEST AND HUNTER OPINION SURVEYS

STATE OF ILLINOIS

PROJECT NO.: W-112-R-3

STUDY I: Surveys of Hunters/Trappers Via Mail-Letter Questionnaire

JOB NO. 2: Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey, 1992-93

ABSTRACT: A systematic sample of 4,200 persons who purchased a 1992 Illinois Furbearer Stamp was surveyed after the furbearer hunting and trapping seasons. The stamp purchasers were contacted by first class mail in three mailings. Questionnaires were delivered to 4,109 (97.8%) recipients from which 2,727 useable replies were received (66.4% return). Of these, 2,427 (89.0%) purchased a stamp to hunt furbearers and 508 (18.6%) purchased a stamp to trap furbearers. There was a total of 21,461 (adjusted stamp sales) potential hunters and 2,913 (trapping license sales) potential trappers in Illinois in 1992-93.

The survey included 6 hunted species and 10 trapped species of furbearers. Findings are presented: (1) on a statewide basis, (2) for each of the 10 wildlife management units in the state, and (3) for the two furbearer management zones currently in use. Data include estimated number and density of active hunters and effective trappers, estimated number and density of furbearers harvested, and average season harvests.

Statewide estimates for the number of active hunters (i.e., hunted ≥1 days) and their harvest (in parentheses) were: raccoon (Procyon lotor) 8,657 (141,588), opossum (Didelphis marsupialis) 1,070 (4,598), red fox (Vulpes vulpes) 3,316 (4,218), gray fox (Urocyon cinereoargenteus) 822 (478), striped skunk (Mephitis mephitis) 442 (1,123), coyote (Canis latrans) 11,840 (36,060), and all species combined 17,340 (188,065). Hunters were afield an average of 24.3 days. An estimated 72.3% of the hunter harvest was sold.

Statewide estimates for the number of effective trappers (i.e., caught ≥1 of the species in question) and their harvest were: muskrat (Ondatra zibethicus) 1,370 (48,604), mink (Mustela vison) 774 (2,707), raccoon 1,801 (44,297), opossum 1,095 (11,457), red fox 424 (1,485), gray fox 166 (413), beaver (Castor canadensis) 700 (4,410), striped skunk 430 (1,663), weasel (Mustela frenata, M. nivalis) 11 (29), coyote 522 (3,590), and all species combined 2,087 (118,655). There were 2,138 active trappers (i.e., set ≥1 traps). Active trappers set an average of 30.9 traps for an average of 27.8 days. An estimated 83.8% of the trapper harvest was sold.

Characteristics of fur hunters (age, residence, licensed hunters in immediate family, subscriptions to publications, types of predator calls used, and hunting habits when using calls) and trappers (age, residence, licensed trappers in immediate family, membership in trapping clubs/organizations, and subscriptions to publications) were profiled. Attitudes and opinions of fur takers toward the European fur market, a special padded-jaw (soft-catch) trapping season, legalizing snares for land sets, and changes in furbearer populations are presented.

JOB COMPLETION REPORT

WILDLIFE HARVEST AND HUNTER OPINION SURVEYS

STATE OF ILLINOIS

PROJECT NO.: W-112-R-3

STUDY I: Surveys of Hunters/Trappers Via Mail-Letter Questionnaire

JOB NO. 2: Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey, 1992-93

OBJECTIVE: To systematically sample (n=2,000) fur hunters and trappers to determine characteristics of their harvest (10 species of mammals), activities, attitudes, and opinions; and to summarize the results in annual reports.

PROCEDURES: Individuals who purchased a 1992 Illinois Furbearer Stamp were systematically sampled with a mail-letter questionnaire. The Illinois Furbearer Stamp was created when Senate Bill 850 was adopted by the Illinois General Assembly and signed into law as Public Act 86-159 in 1989. Beginning with the 1990-91 season, the stamp was required for all persons 16 through 64 years of age who intend to take, attempt to take, or sell the green hides of fur-bearing mammals in Illinois. The law set the initial cost of the stamp at $5.00, plus $0.50 issuing fee, and mandated that the resulting revenue be deposited in a special dedicated fund.

The 1992 Illinois Furbearer Stamp was packaged in booklets of 30 stamps each. The stamps were in numerical sequence, and they had matching (same serial number) stubs attached. Vendors were instructed to complete all spaces (names and mailing addresses of purchasers) on the stubs (Fig. 1) and return the stubs to the Illinois Department of Conservation (DOC).

From stubs returned to the DOC (total sales of the 1992 stamp projected at 22,445 - 28 September 1993), 4,200 names and accompanying mailing addresses were systematically selected and computerized. A questionnaire developed for this survey (Fig. 2), a letter of explanation (Fig. 3), and a return envelope (pre-addressed and postage-paid) were mailed to these 4,200 individuals. Non-

respondents were sent 2nd and 3rd copies of the questionnaire, and accompanying letters (Figs. 4 and 5), at approximately monthly intervals. First class postage was used for all mailings.

Data from returned questionnaires were transferred to a computer file using a data management program (Ashton-Tate dBASE III+) and analyzed with a statistical program (SPSS Inc. SPSS/PC+ V2.0). Respondents were initially classified as fur hunters, trappers, both fur hunters and trappers, or non-pursuers of furbearers. Hunters were further classified as inactive - those who did not spend any time afield hunting furbearers during the 1992-93 seasons, or active - those who spent $\geq$1 days afield hunting furbearers in 1992-93. Trappers were classified as inactive - those who did not set traps for furbearers during the 1992-93 seasons, or active - those who did set $\geq$1 traps for furbearers during the 1992-93 seasons. Active trappers were subdivided as: ineffective - those who did not catch any furbearers, or effective - those who caught $\geq$1 furbearers of the species in question.

The number of potential fur-takers (hunters and/or trappers) was estimated using the sales of 1992 Illinois Furbearer Stamps (22,445) as the basis of reference. Adjustments were made for multiple-stamp purchasers (x 0.935) and age-exempt hunters (x 1.149). The age-exempt factor was derived from the age distribution of Illinois trappers in 1989 and 1990 (Anderson et al. 1990 and 1991). Thus, 22,445 x 0.935 x 1.149 = 24,113 potential fur-takers in Illinois in 1992-93.

The total potential fur-takers (24,113) was combined with data from returned questionnaires to calculate the number of hunters, their days afield, and their harvest of furbearers. The number of trappers and their harvest of furbearers were calculated using 1992 trapping license sales (projected at 2,913 - 28 September 1993) and data from the questionnaires.

Reply data for most of the species surveyed were compiled for the 10 wildlife management units and for the 2 management zones in Illinois (Fig. 6). In addition, confidence limits at the 95% level were calculated by species for the number of active hunters, effective trappers, average season harvests, and total harvests on a statewide basis. The formulas used, described by Cochran (1953) and

Snedecor and Cochran (1967), are as follows:

a. Number of active hunters (or effective trappers) for species:

where N = total license sales

n = number of licensees in sample

$$\pm 2N\sqrt{\frac{pq}{n}}$$

p = portion of licensees in sample who actively hunted (or effectively trapped) species in question

q = 1-p

b. Average season harvest per active hunter (or effective trapper) for species in question:

where n_1 = number of licensees in sample who actively hunted (or effectively trapped) species in question

$$\pm 1.96\sqrt{\frac{(x_i-x_i)^2}{\frac{n_1-1}{n_1}}}$$

x_i = reported season harvest for species in question

c. Total hunter (or trapper) harvest:

where x = reported season harvest for all licensees responding to survey

$$\pm 2N\sqrt{\frac{(x-x)^2}{\frac{n-1}{n}}}$$

All calculations assumed there were no differences between the activities of the licensees who returned the questionnaire and those who did not.

FINDINGS

1992-93 Hunting and Trapping Seasons

The 1992-93 hunting seasons were 75 days in length for raccoon and opossum and 77 days in length for red fox and gray fox (Table 1). For raccoon and opossum, opening dates were 5 November in the North Zone and 16 November in the South Zone. Red fox and gray fox could be legally hunted beginning on 16 November in both the North and South zones. Coyote and striped skunk were legal game for hunters year round, with the exception that all furbearer hunting was suspended during the firearm deer seasons (20-22 November and 3-6 December). However, coyotes could be taken by deer hunters

with unfilled deer permits. There were no bag limits for furbearer hunting.

The 1992-93 trapping seasons for fur-bearing mammals varied from 60 to 147 days in length (Table 1). The seasons for all species, except beaver, lasted 60 days in both the North Zone and the South Zone (Fig. 6). Opening dates were 5 November and 16 November, respectively. Red fox, gray fox, and coyote could be legally trapped for 60 days in both the North Zone and South Zone, starting 16 November. The beaver trapping season was 136 or 147 days in length, depending on zone, and opened concurrently with all other species except foxes and coyote in the North Zone. Special regulations reduced the length of the beaver season to 60 days along the Mississippi River, from Interstate 80 north to the JoDaviess County line, as a protective measure for river otter (Lutra canadensis). No bag limits were in effect for the trapping of furbearers.

1992-93 Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey

The questionnaire was initially sent to the 4,200 individuals on the mailing list on 18 March 1993. The two follow-up mailings to non-respondents were made on 28 April and 26 May, respectively, and the survey was closed on 16 July 1993.

A total of 4,109 (97.8%) of the individuals on the 1992-93 mailing list was reached by the Postal Service via first class mail. The 91 remaining questionnaires were returned as undeliverable. There were 2,727 useable replies from the stamp-purchasers contacted, which represented a 66.4% response for the number delivered.

Of the 2,727 respondents, 2,586 (94.8%) purchased a resident hunting or Sportmen's (hunting and fishing) license, 59 (2.2%) purchased a non-resident hunting license, 508 (18.6%) purchased a resident trapping license, and 6 (0.2%) purchased a non-resident trapping license (Table 2). The respondents reported that they each purchased an average of 1.05 of the 1992 Illinois Furbearer Stamps; 96.1% purchased a single stamp (Table 3).

The respondents included 2,427 (89.0%) individuals who purchased a stamp to hunt furbearers and 508 (18.6%) who purchased a stamp to trap furbearers (Table 3). Further breakdown of the data indicate there were 2,089 (76.6%) individuals who purchased a stamp to hunt only, 170 (6.2%) who purchased a stamp to trap only, 338 (12.4%) who purchased a stamp to hunt and trap, and 130 (4.8%) who were non-pursuers of furbearers. It is noteworthy that most (66.5%) trappers intended to hunt furbearers, but relatively few (13.9%) hunters planned to trap furbearers.

The above data suggest that there were 21,461 potential furbearer hunters and 4,485 potential furbearer trappers in Illinois in 1992-93. However, the latter estimate was 54.0%

greater than the number of 1992 trapping licenses sold (2,913). Therefore, all subsequent calculations made for hunters were based on the 21,485 estimate and all subsequent calculations made for trappers were based on the 2,913 license sales.

1992-93 Furbearer Hunting

Of the 2,427 respondents who purchased a 1992 Illinois Furbearer Stamp to hunt furbearers, 1,961 (80.8%) actually spent ≥1 days afield and were classified as active. Based on these data and the sales of stamps, there were an estimated 17,340 active furbearer hunters and 4,121 inactive furbearer hunters in the state in 1992-93.

a. Characteristics of Fur Hunters

Some personal characteristics of Illinois fur hunters are summarized in Table 4. During the 1992-93 season, active hunters averaged 36.5 years of age. The breakdown by age groups was as follows: 3.9% were <16 years of age, 7.5% were 16-20 years, 23.0% were 21-30 years, 25.3% were 31-40 years, 18.3% were 41-50 years, 10.2% were 51-60 years, 2.6% were 61-64 years, and 9.2% were ≥65 years. The percentages for <16 years and ≥65 years were based on data for trappers (Anderson et al. 1990 and 1991).

With regards to current residence, the vast majority of the active fur hunters lived in rural settings (54.8%) or small towns (36.9%) (Table 4). The remaining hunters lived in the suburbs (4.9%) or urban areas (3.4%). About two-thirds (67.9%) of the active hunters had family members who were licensed hunters at the time the fur hunters purchased their first license. When the active hunters were asked about subscriptions to publications, almost one-fourth (22.7%) said they took Fur Fish & Game, and one-fifth (20.3%) claimed to take Outdoor Highlights. An additional 10.6% subscribed to American Cooner, 8.7% subscribed to Coonhound Bloodlines, and 6.0% subscribed to American Trapper.

Some hunting characteristics of Illinois fur hunters who used a predator call to hunt foxes and/or coyotes are summarized in Table 5. Slightly more than one-third (37.4%) of the active hunters used a predator call during the 1992-93 season. By a wide margin, the most popular call was the mouth-blown manual types with open (plastic) reeds--78.7% of the hunters used these types. In descending order, 26.7% of the hunters used electronic calls, 21.9% used mouth-blown manuals with brass reeds, 11.3% used their mouths and lips, 3.2% used hand-operated calls, and 1.9% used other types such as diaphragms and howlers. The vast majority of the call-using hunters either hunted alone (51.0%) or with 1 other hunter (44.3%), and two-thirds (66.3%) of their activities occurred at dawn and/or dusk. Most (59.6%) of the call-using hunters selected centerfire rifles for pursuing foxes and/or coyotes, and 26.6% selected shotguns. Conversely, .22 rimfire rifles (7.7%),

bows and arrows (4.6%), and handguns (1.1%) were relatively uncommon.

b. Number of Days Afield

The 17,340 active furbearer hunters spent an estimated 421,332 days afield (24.3 days per hunter) during the 1992-93 season. The coyote attracted more hunters (11,840, 55.2% of licensed hunters) and days afield (194,891, 46.3% of total), than any of the other hunted furbearer species (Table 6). A small group (849) of hunters spent an estimated 22,213 days afield chasing wild canids with dogs for sport only and not to kill. Distributions of the days spent afield by raccoon, red fox, gray fox, and coyote hunters, and by wild canid chasers, are presented in Figs. 7-11.

c. Hunter Harvest Summary

Statewide summaries for the 6 species of furbearers included in the hunting portion of the survey are presented in Table 6. In addition to number of hunters and their days afield, the data for each species include average season harvest per active hunter, estimated total hunter harvest, and estimated percent and total sold. Similar information for raccoon, opossum, red fox, gray fox, and coyote, plus estimated density of active hunters and harvest of these species in each of the 10 wildlife management units, is provided in Tables 7-11. The sample sizes for these data are presented in Table 12. This table also includes the percentage of hunters who spent $\geq$1 days afield pursuing each species.

Statewide confidence intervals at the 95% level for number of active hunters, average season harvest per active hunter, and total harvest for each furbearer are given in Table 13. In most instances, those species with the greater number of active hunters in the sample had smaller limits of variability which resulted in greater confidence in the estimates. For example, in 1992-93, active coyote hunters were most numerous and their estimated number varied by only $\pm$3.7%. In contrast, the confidence intervals for less numerous striped skunk hunters varied by $\pm$28.1%.

d. Distribution of Harvest Among Active Hunters

In terms of number of furbearers harvested by hunting and average season harvest, the raccoon was by far the #1 ranked species. The raccoon accounted for 141,588 (75.3%) of the estimated 188,065 furbearers taken during the 1992-93 hunting season (Table 6). The reported number of raccoons harvested by 8,657 active raccoon hunters ranged from 0 to 233 and averaged 16.4. During the season, 56.0% of these hunters harvested $\leq$10 raccoons and 79.5% took $\leq$25 (Table 14).

For the other hunted species, active hunters harvested an average of 4.3 opossums (range 0-30), 1.3 red foxes (range 0-16), 0.6 gray fox (range 0-8), 2.5 striped skunk (0-13), and 3.1 coyotes (range 0-66). One-half (50.1%) of the red fox hunters and three-fourths (74.2%) of the gray fox hunters took 0 animals. Similarly, ≥50% of the coyote and striped skunk hunters took ≤2 animals (Table 14). For these four species, ≤15% of the active hunters made season harvests of >5 pelts. For opossum hunters, 24.1% took >5 pelts during the 1992-93 season.

The above data emphasize the inapplicability of bag limits (both daily and seasonal) to furbearer hunting in Illinois. Few hunters are successful in making large seasonal harvests. The ones who do are active throughout the season over extensive areas. Reductions in season length offer the most potential for reducing the furbearer harvest by highly successful hunters. Bag limits could potentially increase harvest because of their goal-setting implications.

e. Pelt Sales

Hunters sold an estimated 72.3% of their harvest of furbearers during the 1992-93 season. The proportion of each species sold ranged from a low of 0.0% for striped skunk to a high of 80.8% for raccoon (Table 15). Pelts sold by hunters accounted for 136,043 (57.8%) of the estimated 235,521 furbearers sold by all fur-takers in Illinois in 1992-93. Slightly less than one-half (45.9%) of the active hunters did not sell ≥1 pelts of at least 1 species (Table 16).

f. Management Zone Data Summary

Management zone and statewide data summaries for each of the hunted species of furbearers (except striped skunk) included in the 1992-93 survey are presented in Tables 17-21. The data for each species include estimated number and density of active hunters, days afield, average season harvest, estimated total season harvest, and hunter harvest per unit area. The North and South zones listed are nearly identical to the zones employed for regulatory management from 1979-80 through 1992-93 (Fig. 6).

1992-93 Furbearer Trapping

Of the 508 respondents who purchased a 1992 Illinois Furbearer Stamp to trap furbearers, 373 (73.4%) actually set ≥1 traps and were classified as active. A total of 364 (97.6%) of the active trappers were effective--i.e. caught ≥1 furbearers, and the remaining 9 (2.4%) were ineffective--i.e. caught nothing. Based on these data and the sales of trapping licenses, there was an estimated 2,138 active trappers and 2,087 effective trappers in Illinois in 1992-93.

a. Characteristics of Trappers

Some characteristics of Illinois trappers are summarized in Table 22. During the 1992-93 season, active trappers averaged 37.1 years of age. The breakdown by age groups was as follows: 3.9% were <16 years of age, 8.0% were 16-20 years, 23.1% were 21-30 years, 25.2% were 31-40 years, 16.3% were 41-50 years, 9.9% were 51-60 years, 4.4% were 61-64 years, and 9.2% were ≥65 years. The percentages for <16 years and ≥65 years were from Anderson et al. (1990 and 1991).

An overwhelming majority (92.4%) of the active trappers lived in rural areas or small towns (Table 22). More than one-third (38.3%) of the active trappers had family members who were licensed trappers at the time the active trappers purchased their first license. The same percentage (38.3%) of active trappers were members of trapping clubs or organizations. When they were asked about subscriptions to publications, more than one-half (56.0%) of the active trappers said they took Fur Fish & Game and one-third (33.2%) claimed to take Trapper and Predator Caller. An additional 20.9% subscribed to Outdoor Highlights, 14.2% subscribed to American Trapper, and 10.5% subscribed to Fur Taker.

b. Days of Trapping and Traps Used

Active trappers set traps an average of 27.8 days (or nights) during the 1992-93 season (Fig. 12). The maximum number of days a trapper could have legally trapped was 147. However, only 28.9% of the respondents stated they had traps set for >30 days, and just 16.1% trapped >45 days. The vast majority of trapping activity is concentrated during the initial 15 to 30 days of the muskrat, mink, and raccoon seasons. Except for 1991-92, Illinois trappers had traps set for more days in 1992-93 than in other recent years--e.g., they averaged 22.0 days in 1988-89 (106-day season), 20.0 days in 1989-90 (120-day season), and 20.9 days in 1990-91 (139-day season) (Hubert 1989; Anderson et al. 1990; Anderson and Campbell 1992). They averaged 27.4 days in 1991-92 (Anderson and Campbell 1993a).

The average active trapper used 30.9 traps during the 1992-93 season (Fig. 13). In spite of the fact that there were no restrictions on the number of traps that could be set, 86.8% of all active trappers employed ≤50 traps. Only 3.5% used >100 traps. In comparison, the average Illinois trapper used 31.2 traps in 1987-88 (Hubert 1988), 31.6 traps in 1990-91 (Anderson and Campbell 1992), and 31.9 traps in 1991-92 (Anderson and Campbell 1993a). The average Missouri trapper used 32.9 traps in 1972-73 (Sampson 1973).

About one-tenth (10.7%) of the active trappers said that they set snares for beaver during the 1992-93 season.

c. Types and Numbers of Traps Owned

When asked about the types and numbers of traps they owned, the active trappers who responded (n=359) reported having an average of 141.6 traps (median=96.0, range=1-1,297). 95.0% of the trappers said they owned ≥1 leg-hold traps (all types combined), 90.5% owned ≥1 body-gripping traps, 45.7% owned ≥1 box traps, and 1.1% owned ≥1 snares. The latter percentage seems low in light of the fact that 10.7% of the active trappers reported that they set snares for beaver during the 1992-93 season. Detailed information on the types, sizes, and numbers of traps owned are presented in Tables 23 and 24. In addition, 4.6% (n=348) of the trappers reported owning ≥1 traps with laminated jaws.

d. Trapper Harvest Summary

A statewide summary for the 10 species of furbearers that could be trapped legally in 1992-93 is presented in Table 25. The data for each species include the estimated number and percent of effective trappers, average season harvest per effective trapper, estimated total trapper harvest, and estimated percent and total sold. Similar information for muskrat and raccoon, plus estimated density of effective trappers and harvest of these species in each of the 10 wildlife management units, is provided in Tables 26 and 27. The sample sizes for these data are presented in Table 28. This table also provides the percentage of trappers who harvested ≥1 animals of each species.

Statewide confidence intervals at the 95% level for number of effective trappers, average season harvest per effective trapper, and total harvest for each furbearer are given in Table 29. In most instances, those species with the greater number of effective trappers in the sample had smaller limits of variability which resulted in greater confidence in the estimates. For example, in 1992-93, effective raccoon trappers were the most numerous and their estimated number varied by only ±7.0%. The 95% confidence intervals for less numerous red fox trappers varied by ±21.5% and for uncommon weasel trappers by ±145.5%.

e. Distribution of Harvest Among Effective Trappers

The muskrat and raccoon were the two most important furbearers trapped during the 1992-93 season in terms of number of effective trappers, average season catch, and total harvest (Table 25). The reported number of muskrats harvested by 239 effective muskrat trappers ranged from 1 to 350 and averaged 35.5. During the season, 58.2% of these trappers harvested ≤20 muskrats and 94.1% caught ≤100. All values are within the ranges of those obtained in the previous seasons (Hubert 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989; Anderson et al. 1990; Anderson and Campbell 1992, 1993a). Of the effective trappers who responded, 32 (13.4%) stated their harvest averaged ≥1 muskrats per day for the entire season.

The distribution of harvest among effective raccoon trappers was similar to that for muskrat. The number of raccoons harvested by the 314 effective raccoon trappers averaged 24.6 and ranged from 1 to 298. Less than the average season harvest was taken by 67.5% of these trappers. For the entire season, 54.8% harvested ≤15 raccoons and 72.3% harvested ≤25. Only 30 (9.6%) of the effective raccoon trappers reported making an average daily harvest of ≥1 raccoons throughout the season.

The harvests of the other eight open-season furbearers were distributed among effective trappers much like the muskrat and raccoon harvests (Table 30). For four of these species (mink, red fox, gray fox, and striped skunk), ≤20% of the effective trappers made season harvests of >5 pelts. For the other species, 53.3% of the effective opossum trappers took >5 pelts, 35.2% of the effective beaver trappers took >5 pelts, and 34.0% of the effective coyote trappers took >5 pelts (weasel was not considered because of small sample size).

The above data emphasize the inapplicability of bag limits (both daily and seasonal) to furbearer trapping in Illinois. Few trappers are successful in making large seasonal catches. The ones who do are active throughout the season over extensive areas. Reductions in season length offer the most potential for reducing the furbearer harvest by highly successful trappers. Bag limits could potentially increase harvest because of their goal-setting implications.

f. Pelt Sales

Trappers sold an estimated 83.8% of their harvest during 1992-93 season. The proportion of each species sold ranged from a low of 20.7% for striped skunk to a high of 94.7% for mink (Table 25). The fraction of pelts sold in Illinois and out-of-state also varied among species (Table 15). Overall, 78.8% of the marketed portion of the trapped harvest was sold in Illinois and 21.2% out-of-state. In comparison, 95.3% of the trapped harvest was sold (93.9% in Illinois and 6.1% out-of-state) in 1983-84 (Hubert 1984). Slightly less than one-half (45.9%) of the effective trappers did not sell ≥1 pelts of at least 1 species (Table 16).

g. Furbearer Hunting by Trappers

There were 204 trappers (40.2% of licensees) in the sample who reported hunting furbearers with gun and/or dogs in 1992-93 (Table 31). Thus, an estimated 1,171 trappers had an average hunting harvest of 16.8 pelts which equates to a total of 19,663 pelts. This is equivalent to 16.6% of the total trapped harvest. The raccoon was hunted by more trappers than any other species. Next in popularity was the coyote. In comparison, 26.5% of the Illinois trappers hunted furbearers in 1988-89, 25.9% hunted furbearers in 1989-90, 34.3% hunted furbearers in 1990-91, and 33.0% hunted

furbearers in 1991-92 (Hubert 1989; Anderson et al. 1990; Anderson and Campbell 1992, 1993a). Sampson (1973) reported that 33.6% of the trappers in Missouri were fur hunters. Obviously, many trappers are also fur hunters.

h. Management Zone Data Summary

Management zone and statewide data summaries for each of the 10 species of furbearers surveyed in 1992-93 are presented in Tables 32 through 41. The data for each species include estimated number and density of effective trappers, average season harvest, estimated total trapper harvest, and trapper harvest per unit area. The North and South zones listed are nearly identical to the zones employed for regulatory management from 1979-80 through 1992-93 (Fig. 6).

Attitudes and Opinions of Fur Hunters and Trappers

a. Importance of European Fur Market

A plurality (46.5%) of the active trappers thought that maintenance of the European market for wild furs caught in the United States was "very important, but only if leghold traps can continue to be used for some species like raccoon, foxes, and coyotes" (Table 42). An additional 28.5% of the trappers thought the issue was "not important enough to eliminate or restrict the use of leghold traps". These views were not reflected by the hunters--32.1% of the hunters responded with "don't know or undecided" about the European fur market issue. An additional 29.0% of the hunters indicated the issue was "very important, but only if leghold traps can continue to be used for some species like raccoon, foxes, and coyotes". About one-fourth (24.1%) of the hunters thought the European market was important enough to justify totally eliminating leghold traps.

b. Special Padded-jaw Trapping Season

When asked about the possibility of an additional trapping season which allowed only padded-jaw (soft catch) traps, a plurality (36.5%) of the active trappers said they would not participate (Table 43). However, almost as many (33.2%) of the trappers said they didn't know or were undecided about the idea of a padded-jaw trapping season.

c. Legalizing Snares for Land Sets

About one-third (34.7%) of the active trappers thought that land sets for snares should be legal only for those trappers who take and successfully pass a special education course (Table 44). An additional 25.4% of the trappers thought that snares should be

legal for all trappers. In contrast, a plurality (39.1%) of the hunters believed that all land snaring for furbearers should remain illegal. However, almost one-third (29.5%) of the hunters didn't know or were undecided about legalizing land sets for snares.

d. Changes in Furbearer Populations

When asked to express their opinions of changes in furbearer populations from 1991-92 to 1992-93, majorities (>50%) of both hunters and trappers thought that coyote numbers were up (Table 45). A majority of the trappers and a plurality (47.3%) of the hunters also thought that raccoon numbers were up. For red fox, both hunters and trappers were about evenly split as to whether this species' numbers were up, unchanged, or down. Although trappers were also about evenly split in their opinions of changes in muskrat numbers, a plurality (44.7%) of the trappers thought the beaver population was up.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The present survey (Fur Hunter/Trapper) probably realizes its best use and reliability for furbearer management as an indicator of trends in hunting and trapping pressure, success, harvest, and recreation. Until 1990, two other surveys (Hunter Harvest and Trapper Harvest) provided statewide and regional harvest data for the hunted and trapped portions of the annual harvest of furbearers. The Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey was created beginning with the 1990-91 season. Because the mailing list for this new survey was derived from purchasers of the Illinois Furbearer Stamp, it provides data for both fur hunter and trapper activities.

Both the Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey and the Trapper Harvest Survey were conducted during the 1990-91 season to have a year of overlap in data sets for trapping activities. Because there was a high level of agreement between the two surveys (Anderson and Campbell 1992), the Trapper Harvest Survey was discontinued.

Similarly, to have overlapping data for furbearer hunting activities, the hunted species was retained in the Hunter Harvest Survey through the 1992-93 season. A 3-year overlap was considered necessary because data from the Fur Hunter/Trapper and Hunter Harvest surveys showed large discrepancies in the number of furbearer hunters and their harvest in Illinois in 1990-91 (Anderson and Campbell 1992). These discrepancies, with the Hunter Harvest Survey providing the higher estimates, occurred again in 1991-92 (Anderson and Campbell 1993a) and 1992-93 (Table A1). The higher estimates produced by the Hunter Harvest Survey can be explained, at least partially, by the fact that 16.8% of the furbearer hunters in this survey disclosed that they did not purchase an Illinois Furbearer Stamp for the 1991-92 season (Anderson and Campbell 1993a). Since there were probably other hunters in the sample who did not admit to pursuing furbearers

without a stamp, the proportion of "illegal" furbearer hunters was almost certainly greater than 16.8%. This bias was not present in the Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey because this survey was based on individuals who purchased a Furbearer Stamp.

For the past several years, the number of pelts sold in Illinois by Illinois fur-takers has been monitored annually by the Fur Harvest Survey (Bluett and Hubert 1992; R.D. Bluett, unpubl. data). This survey is basically a compilation of data from records kept by fur buyers. Estimates of the number of pelts sold in Illinois in 1992-93 via the Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey exhibited reasonable agreement with the fur buyers' records for all species except red fox and coyote (weasel was not considered because of small samples) (Table A2). Since the Fur Harvest Survey is a definitive accounting of the number of pelts sold in Illinois, this survey will be continued for the foreseeable future.

Because of the creation of the Illinois Habitat Stamp in 1993, the Illinois Furbearer Stamp was discontinued after the 1992 season. The Habitat Stamp is required for anyone who takes or attempts to take any game animal in Illinois except waterfowl. Accordingly, fur hunters and trappers must purchase an Habitat Stamp to legally engage in their chosen activities beginning with the 1993 season. Because of these changes, the Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey will be replaced with two separate surveys beginning in 1994 --a furbearer trapping survey and a furbearer hunter survey. The trapping survey will be conducted annually and will sample people who purchase a resident trapping license. The hunter survey will be conducted every 3-5 years and will sample individuals who indicate on the Habitat Stamp stub that they hunted furbearers during the previous year (Fig. 14).

LITERATURE CITED:

Anderson, W.L., and L.K. Campbell. 1992. Illinois fur hunter/trapper survey, 1990-91. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-99-R and W-112-R, Job 2. 66pp+Appendix.

_____, and _____. 1993a. Illinois fur hunter/trapper survey, 1991-92. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-Proj. Rep. W-112-R, Job 2. 69pp+Appendix.

_____, and _____. 1993b. Illinois hunter harvest survey, 1992-93. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-112-R, Job 1. 65pp.

_____, and _____, and C. M. Zielske. 1990. Trapper harvest survey, 1989-90. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-99-R-2, Study XV, Job 3. 47pp.

_____, _____, and _____ . 1991. Trapper harvest survey, 1990-91. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-99-R-3, Study XV, Job 3. 48pp.

Bluett, R.D., and G.F. Hubert, Jr. 1992. Fur harvest survey, 1991-92. Illinois Department of Conservation P-R. Proj. Rep. W-99-R-3, Study XV, Job 2. 27pp.

Cochran, W.G. 1953. Sampling techniques, 2nd ed. Wiley and Sons, New York. 413 pp.

Hubert, G.F., Jr.. 1982. Trapper harvest survey, 1981-82. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-49-R-29, Study XV, Job 4. 53pp.

_____. 1983. Trapper harvest survey, 1982-83. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-49-R-30, Study XV, Job 4. 50pp.

_____. 1984. Trapper harvest survey, 1983-84. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-49-R-31, Study XV, Job 4. 51pp.

_____. 1985. Trapper harvest survey, 1984-85. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-49-R-32, Study XV, Job 4. 48pp.

_____. 1986. Trapper harvest survey, 1985-86. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-49-R-33, Study XV, Job 3. 48pp.

_____. 1987. Trapper harvest survey, 1986-87. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-49-R-34, Study XV, Job 3. 48pp.

_____. 1988. Trapper harvest survey, 1987-88. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-49-R-35, Study XV, Job 3. 47pp.

_____. 1989. Trapper harvest survey, 1988-89. Illinois Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-49-R-36, Study XV, Job 3. 47pp.

Sampson, F.W. 1973. Fur harvest survey, 1972-73. Missouri Dept. of Conservation P-R Proj. Rep. W-13-R-28, Study X, Job 1. 16pp.

Snedecor, G.W., and W. G. Cochran. 1967. Statistical methods, 6th ed. Iowa State Univ. Press, Ames. 593pp.

DATA AND REPORTS:

Original data and reports for this investigation are on file in the Investigations and Surveys Program offices, Natural Resources Studies Annex, Champaign, Illinois 61820.

Acknowledgements. Appreciation is extended to G.F. Hubert, Jr. and R.D. Bluett for assisting with all aspects in the development of this survey and for critically reading a preliminary draft of the report. This study was funded in part by Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project W-112-R, the Illinois Department of Conservation, Illinois Natural History Survey, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, cooperating.

PREPARED BY: William L. Anderson and Linda K. Campbell
Investigations and Surveys Program
Division of Wildlife Resources

DATE: 25 March 1994

APPROVED BY: _____
Jeffrey M. Ver Steeg
Chief
Division of Wildlife Resources

DATE: 1 April 1994

Table 1. Furbearer hunting and trapping seasons in Illinois, 1992-93.

Species	Hunting Seasons	
	North Zone	South Zone
Raccoon, opossum	5 Nov - 18 Jan[a](75)[b]	16 Nov - 29 Jan[a](75)
Red fox, gray fox	16 Nov - 31 Jan[a](77)	16 Nov - 31 Jan[a](77)
Coyote, striped skunk	Year round[a]	Year round[a]

Species	Trapping Seasons	
	Northern Zone	Southern Zone
Muskrat, mink, raccoon, opossum, striped skunk, weasel	5 Nov - 3 Jan (60)	16 Nov - 14 Jan (60)
Beaver	5 Nov - 31 Mar (147)[c]	16 Nov - 31 Mar (136)
Red fox, gray fox, coyote	16 Nov - 14 Jan (60)	16 Nov - 14 Jan (60)

[a]Closed during firearm deer season (November 20-22 and December 3-6), except coyotes could be taken by deer hunters with unfilled deer permits.

[b]Numbers in parentheses are season lengths in days.

[c]Those portions of Carroll, Whiteside, and Rock Island counties lying west of Illinois Rt. 84 from Interstate 80 north to the JoDaviess county line were open to beaver trapping from 5 Nov. - 3 Jan. 1993 only.

Table 2. The types and numbers of Illinois hunting and trapping licenses purchased by participants in the 1992-93 Illinois Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey (n = 2,727).

Type of License	Respondents		Mean Number of Licenses Per Purchaser
	Number	Percentage	
Resident hunting and/or resident sportsman's	2,586	94.8	1.08
Resident trapping	508	18.6	1.01
Non-resident hunting (5-day or full season)	59	2.2	1.12
Non-resident trapping	6	0.2	1.00
Other[a]	4	0.1	1.00

[a]Lifetime hunting or sportsman's license.

Table 3. Number of 1992 Illinois State Furbearer Stamps purchased and reasons for purchasing stamp (n = 2,727).

Category	Purchasers	
	Number	Percentage
Mean number of stamps purchased:	1.05[a]	
Reasons for purchasing stamps:		
Hunting furbearers	2,427	89.0%
Trapping furbearers	508	18.6%
Stamp collecting	160	5.9%
Support wildlife conservation	797	29.2%
For use as a gift	12	0.4%
Other[b]	27	1.0%

[a]96.1% purchased 1 stamp, 3.1% purchased 2 stamps, 0.5% purchased 3 stamps, 0.1% purchased 4 stamps, 0.1% purchased 5 stamps, and 0.1% purchased 6-10 stamps.

[b]Includes the following reasons: To control nuisance animals, 15 people; to run and train dogs, 7 people; to buy and sell furs (including animals killed on roads), 2 people; 3 miscellaneous reasons, 3 people.

Table 4. Some personal characteristics of active fur hunters in Illinois, 1992-93 season. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Characteristic	Value
	(1,933)
Mean age	36.5 years[a]
Current residence	(1,956)
Rural	54.8%
Small town	36.9
Suburban	4.9
Urban	3.4
Immediate family licensed hunters when hunter purchased first license	(1,940)
Yes	67.9%
No	26.1
Don't recall	6.1
Subscriptions to publications	(1,961)
American Cooner	10.6%
Coonhound Bloodlines	8.7
Fur Fish & Game	22.7
Trapper and Predator Caller	6.0
American Trapper	2.1
Fur Taker	1.4
Outdoor Highlights	20.3

[a]Distribution: <16 years, 3.9%; 16-20 years, 7.5%; 21-30 years, 23.0%; 31-40 years, 25.3%; 41-50 years, 18.3%; 51-60 years, 10.2%; 61-64 years, 2.6%; ≥65 years 9.2%. The percentages for <16 years and ≥65 years were based on data for trappers (Anderson et al. 1990 and 1991).

Table 5. Some hunting characteristics of hunters who used a predator call to hunt foxes and/or coyotes in Illinois, 1992-93 season. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Characteristic	Value
	(1,946)
Percentage who used predator calls	37.4%
Types of calls used	(727)
Electronic (battery-operated)	26.7%
Mouth-blown manual with brass reed	21.9
Mouth-blown manual with open (plastic) reed	78.7
Hand-operated manual	3.2
Mouth and lips only	11.3
Others[a]	1.9
Use call alone or, hunted with other people	(724)
Alone	51.0%
With 1 other person	44.3
With ≥2 other persons	4.7
Time of day hunted using call	(719)
At night	16.4%
At dawn and/or dusk	66.3
During daylight hours	17.3
Types of weapons used for hunting foxes and/or coyotes when using call	(715)
Shotgun	26.6%
Centerfire rifle	59.6
.22 rimfire rifle	7.7
Handgun	1.1
Bow and arrow	4.6
Muzzleloader	0.4

[a]Included diaphragm calls (0.8%), howlers (0.4%), and 5 miscellaneous types of calls (0.7%).

Table 6. Summary of statewide data from post-season survey of resident fur hunters in Illinois, 1992-93 season (n=2427).

Species	Estimated Number of Active Hunters	Percent of Licensed Hunters	Estimated Number of Days Afield	Average Season Harvest	Estimated Total Hunter Harvest	Estimated Percent Sold	Estimated Total Sold
Raccoon	8657	40.34	146053	16.36	141588	80.82	114432
Opossum	1070	4.99	10646	4.30	4598	47.31	2175
Red fox	3316	15.45	36768	1.27	4218	60.79	2565
Coyote	11840	55.17	194891	3.05	36060	45.81	16518
Gray fox	822	3.83	8144	0.58	478	74.08	353
Skunk	442	2.06	2617	2.54	1123	0	0
Canid chasing	849	3.96	22213	..	..	..	..

Table 7. Summary of raccoon hunter and harvest data by wildlife management units in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=979).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Number of Active Hunters	Estimated Number of Active Hunters/100km2	Estimated Number of Days Afield	Average Season Harvest	Estimated Total Hunter Harvest	Estimated Hunter Harvest/100km2
Northwest Hills	902 (10.4)	9.60	9426	13.62	12282	130.68
Northeast Moraine	141 (1.6)	1.71	1424	4.38	619	7.48
Mississippi Border-North	831 (9.6)	10.59	15307	28.17	23415	298.36
Mississippi Border-South	893 (10.3)	6.53	17800	18.41	16438	120.21
Western Prairie/Forest	1238 (14.3)	8.58	18914	15.42	19091	132.38
Central Sand Prairie	124 (1.4)	2.99	619	8.14	1008	24.31
Grand Prairie	2158 (24.9)	4.10	30074	12.86	27739	52.71
Southern Plain	1618 (18.7)	6.82	36264	16.19	26201	110.43
Wabash Border	486 (5.6)	7.21	8940	20.84	10134	150.31
Shawnee Hills	256 (3.0)	4.92	7269	17.93	4598	88.15
Unknown	9 (0.1)	..	18	..	62	..
Statewide	8657 (100.0)	5.93	146053	16.36	141588	96.93

Table 8. Summary of opossum hunter and harvest data by wildlife management units in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=121).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Number of Active Hunters	Estimated Number of Active Hunters/100km2	Estimated Number of Days Afield	Average Season Harvest	Estimated Total Hunter Harvest	Estimated Hunter Harvest/100km2
Northwest Hills	124 (11.6)	1.32	646	3.43	424	4.52
Northeast Moraine	18 (1.7)	0.21	62	5.00	88	1.07
Mississippi Border-North	71 (6.6)	0.90	495	5.38	380	4.84
Mississippi Border-South	62 (5.8)	0.45	628	4.00	248	1.81
Western Prairie/Forest	97 (9.1)	0.67	2043	6.91	672	4.66
Central Sand Prairie	44 (4.1)	1.07	301	1.20	53	1.28
Grand Prairie	318 (29.8)	0.60	1707	3.25	1035	1.97
Southern Plain	203 (19.0)	0.86	2927	7.30	1486	6.26
Wabash Border	71 (6.6)	1.05	707	1.25	88	1.31
Shawnee Hills	62 (5.8)	1.19	1132	2.00	124	2.37
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	0	..	0	..
Statewide	1070 (100.0)	0.73	10646	4.30	4598	3.15

Table 9. Summary of red fox hunter and harvest data by wildlife management units in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=375).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Number of Active Hunters	Estimated Number of Active Hunters/100km2	Estimated Number of Days Afield	Average Season Harvest	Estimated Total Hunter Harvest	Estimated Hunter Harvest/100km2
Northwest Hills	522 (15.7)	5.55	5367	1.59	831	8.84
Northeast Moraine	159 (4.8)	1.92	1715	0.67	106	1.28
Mississippi Border-North	141 (4.3)	1.80	1158	2.06	292	3.72
Mississippi Border-South	133 (4.0)	0.97	1822	0.73	97	0.71
Western Prairie/Forest	301 (9.1)	2.08	3802	1.35	407	2.82
Central Sand Prairie	88 (2.7)	2.13	513	0.70	62	1.49
Grand Prairie	1353 (40.8)	2.57	14254	1.25	1698	3.23
Southern Plain	495 (14.9)	2.09	6499	1.14	566	2.39
Wabash Border	35 (1.1)	0.52	195	1.50	53	0.79
Shawnee Hills	53 (1.6)	1.02	787	1.67	88	1.70
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	0	..	0	..
Statewide	3316 (100.0)	2.27	36768	1.27	4218	2.89

Table 10. Summary of gray fox hunter and harvest data by wildlife management units in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=93).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Number of Active Hunters	Estimated Number of Active Hunters/100km2	Estimated Number of Days Afield	Average Season Harvest	Estimated Total Hunter Harvest	Estimated Hunter Harvest/100km2
Northwest Hills	62 (7.5)	0.66	469	0.14	9	0.09
Northeast Moraine	44 (5.4)	0.53	265	0.20	9	0.11
Mississippi Border-North	27 (3.2)	0.34	115	0.33	9	0.11
Mississippi Border-South	44 (5.4)	0.32	133	0.00	0	0.00
Western Prairie/Forest	35 (4.3)	0.25	531	0.25	9	0.06
Central Sand Prairie	53 (6.5)	1.28	371	0.00	0	0.00
Grand Prairie	327 (39.8)	0.62	4015	0.62	203	0.39
Southern Plain	177 (21.5)	0.75	1326	1.15	203	0.86
Wabash Border	18 (2.2)	0.26	177	0.50	9	0.13
Shawnee Hills	35 (4.3)	0.68	743	0.75	27	0.51
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	0	..	0	..
Statewide	822 (100.0)	0.56	8144	0.58	478	0.33

Table 11. Summary of coyote hunter and harvest data by wildlife management units in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=1339).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Number of Active Hunters		Estimated Number of Active Hunters/100km2	Estimated Number of Days Afield	Average Season Harvest	Estimated Total Hunter Harvest	Estimated Hunter Harvest/100km2
Northwest Hills	1052	(8.9)	11.20	12583	2.10	2211	23.52
Northeast Moraine	274	(2.3)	3.31	4536	1.26	345	4.17
Mississippi Border-North	734	(6.2)	9.35	10885	3.13	2299	29.30
Mississippi Border-South	911	(7.7)	6.66	16332	2.38	2166	15.84
Western Prairie/Forest	1786	(15.1)	12.39	31727	3.19	5703	39.55
Central Sand Prairie	318	(2.7)	7.68	4041	3.36	1070	25.80
Grand Prairie	4165	(35.2)	7.91	54939	2.91	12114	23.02
Southern Plain	1813	(15.3)	7.64	40552	3.93	7127	30.04
Wabash Border	478	(4.0)	7.08	13644	4.65	2219	32.92
Shawnee Hills	230	(1.9)	4.41	3643	2.15	495	9.49
Unknown	18	(0.1)	..	318	..	71	..
Statewide	11840	(100.0)	8.11	194891	3.05	36060	24.69

Table 12. Statewide sample sizes for post-season mail survey of resident fur hunters in Illinois, 1992-93 season (n=2427).

Species	Number of Active Hunters In Sample	Percent Active Hunters	Season Harvest by Hunters Sampled
Raccoon	979	40.34	141588
Opossum	121	4.99	4598
Red fox	375	15.45	4218
Coyote	1339	55.17	36060
Gray fox	93	3.83	478
Skunk	50	2.06	1123
Canid chasing	96	3.96	..

Table 13. Confidence intervals (95%) for estimated number of active fur hunters, average season harvest, and total hunter harvest by species in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=2427).

Species	Estimated Number of Active Hunters	Average Season Harvest	Estimated Total Harvest
Raccoon	8657 +/- 427	16.36 +/- 1.40	141588 +/- 14219
Opossum	1070 +/- 190	4.30 +/- 1.01	4598 +/- 1368
Red fox	3316 +/- 315	1.27 +/- 0.24	4218 +/- 889
Coyote	11840 +/- 433	3.05 +/- 0.33	36060 +/- 4234
Gray fox	822 +/- 167	0.58 +/- 0.30	478 /- 270
Skunk	442 +/- 124	2.54 +/- 0.74	1123 +/- 453
Canid chasing	849 +/- 170	..	..

Table 14. Distribution of furbearer harvest among active hunters in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Total Season Harvest	Percentage of Active Hunters					
	Raccoon (979)	Opossum (121)	Red fox (375)	Coyote (1339)	Gray fox (93)	Striped skunk (50)
0	14.4	16.5	50.1	41.4	74.2	14.0
1	4.6	19.8	23.7	17.1	17.2	30.0
2	7.5	16.5	13.3	10.9	2.2	20.0
3	6.3	12.4	3.2	7.6	1.1	12.0
4	4.7	3.3	3.7	4.9	1.1	10.0
5	4.5	7.4	1.1	3.4	1.1	4.0
6	3.5	4.1	1.1	2.2	0.0	4.0
7	1.9	2.5	0.8	1.9	2.2	2.0
8	3.0	3.3	0.3	1.3	1.1	0.0
9	0.7	1.7	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0
10	4.9	2.5	0.8	1.9	0.0	0.0
11	0.8	1.7	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.0
12	2.9	0.8	0.5	1.4	0.0	2.0
13	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0	2.0
14	0.8	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
15	4.7	3.3	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.0
16-20	7.9	1.7	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.0
20-25	6.1	0.8	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0
>25	20.5	1.7	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0

Table 15. Distribution of pelts sold by fur hunters and trappers in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n = 1,961 active hunters and 364 effective trappers).

Species	Pelts Sold by Hunters		Pelts Sold by Trappers		Total Number of Pelts Sold
	In Illinois	Outside Illinois	In Illinois	Outside Illinois	
Muskrat	..	..	35,839 (88.5)	4,668 (11.5)	40,507
Mink	..	..	1,732 (67.6)	831 (32.4)	2,563
Raccoon	97,852 (85.5)[a]	16,580 (14.5)	29,841 (73.1)	10,987 (26.9)	155,260
Opossum	1,786 (82.1)	389 (17.9)	5,711 (73.8)	2,030 (26.2)	9,916
Red fox	2,158 (84.1)	407 (15.9)	946 (70.8)	390 (29.2)	3,901
Gray fox	318 (90.1)	35 (9.9)	224 (70.3)	103 (29.7)	680
Beaver	..	..	1,881 (64.8)	1,021 (35.2)	2,902
Striped skunk	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	183 (53.2)	161 (46.8)	344
Weasel	..	..	6 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	6
Coyote	15,360 (93.0)	1,158 (7.0)	2,047 (70.0)	877 (30.0)	19,442
Totals	117,474 (86.4)	18,569 (13.6)	78,410 (78.8)	21,068 (21.2)	235,521

[a]Percentage sold in and outside Illinois.

Table 16. Number of hunters and trappers who did not sell ≥1 pelts, and the number of pelts not sold, in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n = 1,961 active hunters and 364 effective trappers).

	Hunters		Trappers		All Fur-takers	
Species	Number of Hunters	Number of Pelts Not Sold	Number of Trappers	Number of Pelts Not Sold	Number of Fur-takers	Number of Pelts Not Sold
Muskrat	..	..	241 (17.6)[b]	8,097 (16.6)[d]	241 (17.6)[c]	8,097 (16.6)[d]
Mink	..	..	97 (12.5)	144 (5.3)	97 (12.5)	144 (5.3)
Raccoon	2,989 (34.5)[a]	27,255 (19.2)[d]	447 (24.8)	3,469 (7.8)	3,395 (33.8)	30,724 (16.5)
Opossum	610 (57.0)	2,423 (52.7)	516 (47.1)	3,716 (32.4)	1,293 (48.6)	6,139 (38.2)
Red Fox	875 (26.4)	1,653 (39.2)	115 (27.1)	149 (10.0)	996 (26.3)	1,802 (31.6)
Gray Fox	88 (10.7)	125 (26.2)	29 (17.5)	86 (20.8)	128 (12.9)	211 (23.7)
Beaver	..	..	275 (39.3)	1,508 (34.2)	275 (39.3)	1,508 (34.2)
Striped Skunk	380 (86.0)	1,123 (100.0)	350 (81.4)	1,319 (79.3)	842 (96.8)	2,442 (87.7)
Weasel	..	..	6 (54.5)	23 (79.3)	6 (54.5)	23 (79.3)
Coyote	5,208 (44.0)	19,542 (54.2)	195 (37.4)	666 (18.6)	5,216 (41.5)	20,208 (51.0)
Totals	7,967[c] (45.9)	52,121 (27.7)	1,153[c] (55.2)	19,177 (16.2)	8,653[c] (48.3)	71,298 (23.2)

[a]Percentage of active hunters.

[b]Percentage of effective trappers.

[c]Percentage of fur-takers who were active hunters and/or effective trappers.

[d]Percentage of animals harvested.

[c]The totals are less than the sum of the above values because some hunters, trappers, and furtakers did not sell ≥1 pelts from >1 species.

Table 17. Summary of raccoon hunter and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=979).

Area	Estimated Number of Active Hunters	Estimated Number of Active Hunters/100km2	Estimated Number of Days Afield	Average Season Harvest	Estimated Total Hunter Harvest	Estimated Hunter Harvest/100km2
North Zone	4669 (53.9)	5.71	61907	15.54 +/- 1.94	72571	88.68
South Zone	3979 (46.0)	6.19	84129	17.33 +/- 2.03	68955	107.34
Unknown	9 (0.1)	..	18	..	62	..
Statewide	8657 (100.0)	5.93	146053	16.36 +/- 3.05	141588	96.93

Table 18. Summary of opossum hunter and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=121).

Area	Estimated Number of Active Hunters	Estimated Number of Active Hunters/100km2	Estimated Number of Days Afield	Average Season Harvest	Estimated Total Hunter Harvest	Estimated Hunter Harvest/100km2
North Zone	601 (56.2)	0.73	4094	3.71 +/- 1.12	2228	2.72
South Zone	469 (43.8)	0.73	6552	5.06 +/- 1.79	2370	3.69
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	0	..	0	..
Statewide	1070 (100.0)	0.73	10646	4.30 +/- 2.32	4598	3.15

Table 19. Summary of red fox hunter and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=375).

Area	Estimated Number of Active Hunters	Estimated Number of Active Hunters/100km2	Estimated Number of Days Afield	Average Season Harvest	Estimated Total Hunter Harvest	Estimated Hunter Harvest/100km2
North Zone	2361 (71.2)	2.88	23380	1.31 +/- 0.29	3095	3.78
South Zone	920 (27.7)	1.43	12733	1.20 +/- 0.43	1105	1.72
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	0	..	0	..
Statewide	3316 (100.0)	2.27	36768	1.27 +/- 0.85	4218	2.89

Table 20. Summary of gray fox hunter and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=93).

Area	Estimated Number of Active Hunters	Estimated Number of Active Hunters/100km2	Estimated Number of Days Afield	Average Season Harvest	Estimated Total Hunter Harvest	Estimated Hunter Harvest/100km2
North Zone	442 (53.8)	0.54	4519	0.22 +/- 0.14	97	0.12
South Zone	380 (46.2)	0.59	3625	1.00 +/- 0.62	380	0.59
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	0	..	0	..
Statewide	822 (100.0)	0.56	8144	0.58 +/- 0.66	478	0.33

Table 21. Summary of coyote hunter and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=1339).

Area	Estimated Number of Active Hunters	Estimated Number of Active Hunters/100km2	Estimated Number of Days Afield	Average Season Harvest	Estimated Total Hunter Harvest	Estimated Hunter Harvest/100km2
North Zone	7180 (60.6)	8.77	99400	2.72 +/- 0.37	19560	23.90
South Zone	4580 (38.7)	7.13	93484	3.53 +/- 0.63	16191	25.20
Unknown	10 (0.1)	..	310	..	71	..
Statewide	11840 (100.0)	8.11	194891	3.05 +/- 0.86	36060	24.69

Table 22. Some personal characteristics of active trappers in Illinois, 1992-93 season. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Characteristic	Value
	(367)
Mean age	37.1 years[a]
Current residence	(372)
Rural	53.2%
Small town	39.2
Suburban	5.1
Urban	2.5
Immediate family licensed trappers when trapper purchased first license	(371)
Yes	38.3%
No	57.4
Don't recall	4.3
	(373)
Member of trapping club/organization	38.3%
Subscriptions to publications	(373)
American Cooner	2.7%
Coonhound Bloodlines	3.8
Fur Fish & Game	56.0
Trapper and Predator Caller	33.2
American Trapper	14.2
Fur Taker	10.5
Outdoor Highlights	20.9

[a]Distribution: <16 years, 3.9%; 16-20 years, 8.0%; 21-30 years, 23.1%; 31-40 years, 25.2%; 41-50 years, 16.3%; 51-60 years, 9.9%; 61-64 years, 4.4%, and ≥65 years, 9.2%. The percentages for <16 years and ≥65 years were from Anderson et al. (1990 and 1991).

Table 23. Percentage of Illinois trappers who own common types of leghold traps, and number of traps owned, 1992-93 season. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Type and Size	Percentage Ownership	Number owned			
		Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Coilspring					
#1	34.0 (359)	14.7 (122)	12.0	1	120
#1-1/2	70.2	29.8 (252)	20.0	1	300
#1-3/4	39.0	20.4 (140)	14.5	1	176
#2	52.6	17.6 (189)	12.0	1	250
#3	33.1	14.4 (119)	6.0	1	120
#4	17.3	8.5 (62)	6.0	1	60
All sizes	90.5	54.6 (325)	36.0	2	684
Longspring					
#1	46.5 (359)	26.1 (167)	17.0	1	175
#1-1/2	51.8	21.3 (186)	12.0	1	140
#2	34.5	11.6 (124)	8.0	1	50
#3	19.2	10.6 (69)	6.0	1	100
#4	19.8	8.5 (71)	5.0	1	96
#11 (#1 double-spring)	26.7	26.0 (96)	10.0	1	300
#1 stop-loss	17.8	15.1 (64)	11.0	1	80
#1-1/2 stop loss	0.6	16.5 (2)	16.5	12	21
All sizes	78.6	51.5 (282)	27.5	1	360

Table 23 - continued.

Table 23. - Continued Page 2.

Jump					
#1	1.1 (359)	16.8 (4)	16.0	10	25
#1-1/2	1.7	14.8 (6)	12.0	2	36
#2	0.3	25.0 (1)	--	--	--
#3	0.3	1.0 (1)	--	--	--
#4	1.1	4.8 (4)	3.5	1	6
All sizes	2.2	25.1 (8)	21.5	3	86
Padded					
#1	0.8 (359)	11.3 (3)	12.0	2	20
#3	3.1	7.8 (11)	4.0	1	48
#1-1/2	5.0	12.2 (18)	6.0	1	115
All sizes	7.5	12.6 (27)	6.0	1	163
Other	0.6[a] (359)	11.0 (2)	11.0	3	19
All types and sizes	95.0 (359)	96.3 (341)	62.0	2	887

[a]Includes 1 trapper who owned 3 size #5 long-spring traps and 1 trapper who owned 15 dog-proof traps and 4 egg traps.

Table 24. Percentage of Illinois trappers who own body-gripping traps, and snares, and number of traps owned, 1992-93 season. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Type and Size	Percentage Ownership	Number owned			
		Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Body-gripping					
#110	79.4 (359)	36.9 (285)	24.0	1	300
#120	15.3	9.4 (55)	6.0	1	60
#160	11.4	10.3 (41)	7.0	1	48
#220	70.2	18.4 (252)	12.0	1	200
#280	5.8	5.0 (21)	3.0	1	27
#330	56.3	7.3 (202)	6.0	1	60
All sizes	89.1	55.2 (320)	37.0	1	430
Box					
All sizes	45.7 (359)	3.3 (164)	2.0	1	24
Snare					
All sizes	1.1 (359)	13.5 (4)	13.0	8	20
Other	0.6[a] (359)	1.0 (2)	1.0	1	1
All types and sizes	94.4 (359)	53.9 (339)	36.0	1	430

[a]Includes 1 trapper who owned 1 size # round body-gripping trap and 1 trapper who owned 1 tunnel trap.

Table 25. Summary of statewide data from post-season survey of resident trappers in Illinois, 1992-93 season (n=508).

Species	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Percent of Licensed Trappers	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Percent Sold	Estimate Total Sold
Muskrat	1370	47.05	35.46	48604	83.34	40507
Mink	774	26.57	3.50	2707	94.70	2563
Raccoon	1801	61.81	24.60	44297	92.17	40828
Opossum	1095	37.60	10.46	11457	67.57	7741
Red fox	424	14.57	3.50	1485	89.96	1336
Gray fox	166	5.71	2.48	413	79.17	327
Beaver	700	24.02	6.30	4410	65.80	2902
Skunk	430	14.76	3.87	1663	20.69	344
Weasel	11	0.39	2.50	29	20.00	6
Coyote	522	17.91	6.88	3590	81.47	2924

Table 26. Summary of muskrat trapper and harvest data by wildlife management units in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=239).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers/100km2	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km2
Northwest Hills	212 (15.5)	2.26	46.51	9869	105.00
Northeast Moraine	63 (4.6)	0.76	18.64	7483	90.46
Mississippi Border-North	97 (7.1)	1.24	22.29	2173	27.69
Mississippi Border-South	138 (10.0)	1.01	27.63	3802	27.80
Western Prairie/Forest	195 (14.2)	1.35	19.26	3756	26.04
Central Sand Prairie	63 (4.6)	1.52	71.27	4496	108.41
Grand Prairie	344 (25.1)	0.65	30.07	10345	19.66
Southern Plain	183 (13.4)	0.77	26.78	4914	20.71
Wabash Border	34 (2.5)	0.51	22.17	763	11.31
Shawnee Hills	40 (2.9)	0.77	25.00	1003	19.24
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	0.00	0	..
Statewide	1370 (100.0)	0.94	35.46	48604	33.27

Table 27. Summary of raccoon trapper and harvest data by wildlife management units in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=314).

Wildlife Management Unit	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers/100km2	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km2
Northwest Hills	258 (14.3)	2.75	21.71	5602	59.61
Northeast Moraine	75 (4.1)	0.90	18.08	1348	16.29
Mississippi Border-North	172 (9.6)	2.19	35.37	6084	77.52
Mississippi Border-South	189 (10.5)	1.38	23.06	4364	31.91
Western Prairie/Forest	270 (15.0)	1.87	28.70	7736	53.64
Central Sand Prairie	75 (4.1)	1.80	21.77	1623	39.13
Grand Prairie	493 (27.4)	0.94	23.94	11807	22.43
Southern Plain	178 (9.9)	0.75	22.68	4031	16.99
Wabash Border	34 (1.9)	0.51	19.50	671	9.95
Shawnee Hills	57 (3.2)	1.10	18.00	1032	19.79
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	0.00	0	..
Statewide	1801 (100.0)	1.23	24.60	44297	30.32

Table 28. Statewide sample sizes for post-season mail survey of resident fur trappers in Illinois, 1992-93 season (n=508).

Species	Number of Effective Trappers In Sample	Percent Effective Trappers	Season Harvest by Effective Trappers in Sample
Muskrat	239	47.05	8476
Mink	135	26.57	472
Raccoon	314	61.81	7725
Opossum	191	37.60	1998
Red fox	74	14.57	259
Gray fox	29	5.71	72
Beaver	122	24.02	769
Skunk	75	14.76	290
Weasel	2	0.39	5
Coyote	91	17.91	626

Table 29. Confidence intervals (95%) for estimated number of effective trappers, average season harvest, and total trapper harvest by species in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=508).

Species	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Harvest
Muskrat	1370 +/- 129	35.46 +/- 9.85	48604 +/- 14499
Mink	774 +/- 114	3.50 +/- 0.89	2707 +/- 809
Raccoon	1801 +/- 126	24.60 +/- 3.68	44297 +/- 7434
Opossum	1095 +/- 125	10.46 +/- 1.75	11457 +/- 2347
Red fox	424 +/- 91	3.50 +/- 1.06	1485 +/- 556
Gray fox	166 +/- 60	2.48 +/- 0.89	413 +/- 209
Beaver	700 +/- 110	6.30 +/- 1.15	4410 +/- 1075
Skunk	430 +/- 92	3.87 +/- 0.81	1663 +/- 501
Weasel	11 +/- 16	2.50 +/- 2.94	29 +/- 47
Coyote	522 +/- 99	6.88 +/- 1.83	3590 +/- 1187

Table 30. Distribution of furbearer harvest among effective trappers in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Total Season Catch	Percentage of Effective Trappers									
	Muskrat (239)	Mink (135)	Raccoon (314)	Opossum (191)	Red fox (74)	Gray fox (29)	Beaver (122)	Striped skunk (75)	Weasel (2)	Coyote (91)
1	7.9	40.0	6.4	8.4	39.2	58.6	25.4	21.3	50.0	25.3
2	3.8	23.7	5.4	10.5	23.0	10.3	13.9	29.3	0.0	18.7
3	4.2	8.9	5.1	12.6	5.4	10.3	11.5	17.3	0.0	11.0
4	3.8	6.7	3.8	7.9	9.5	3.4	6.6	4.0	50.0	7.7
5	3.3	5.9	5.7	7.3	10.8	3.4	7.4	9.3	0.0	3.3
6	3.8	2.2	2.9	5.2	2.7	3.4	3.3	2.7	0.0	2.2
7	1.3	3.7	1.3	3.1	2.7	3.4	2.5	1.3	0.0	4.4
8	4.6	0.0	3.5	4.2	1.4	3.4	1.6	4.0	0.0	1.1
9	1.3	3.0	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.0	2.5	1.3	0.0	2.2
10	7.5	2.2	6.4	9.9	0.0	3.4	2.5	1.3	0.0	4.4
11	0.8	1.5	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
12	1.7	0.0	4.8	3.1	0.0	0.0	1.6	2.7	0.0	2.2
13	1.7	0.0	2.9	1.0	1.4	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	1.1
14	1.7	0.0	1.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.8	2.7	0.0	0.0
15	4.2	0.0	4.5	5.2	0.0	0.0	1.6	2.7	0.0	4.4
16-20	6.7	0.0	9.2	7.9	1.4	0.0	9.0	0.0	0.0	3.3
20-25	6.3	0.7	8.3	2.1	1.4	0.0	3.3	0.0	0.0	5.5
>25	35.6	1.5	27.7	8.4	1.4	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	3.3

Table 31. Summary of furbearer hunting activities by trappers in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n = 508).

Species	Number of Trappers Effectively Hunting Species	Total Number Harvested by Hunting	Average Number Harvested by Hunting	Estimated Percent of All Licensed Trappers Effectively Hunting Species	Estimated Total Harvest by All Trappers Effectively Hunting Species
Raccoon	126	2,510	19.92	24.80	14,393
Opossum	24	185	7.71	4.72	1,061
Red fox	39[a]	114	2.92	7.68	654
Gray fox	10[a]	19	1.90	1.97	109
Striped skunk	9	27	3.00	1.77	155
Coyote	94[a]	574	6.11	18.50	3,291
All species[b]	204[c]	3,429	16.81	40.16	19,663

[a]Eight trappers (1.6% of licensees) reported chasing wild canids for sport only and not to kill.

[b]Data in this line include all trappers (effective and ineffective) who hunted furbearers.

[c]Total for all species is less than the sum of the above values because some trappers hunted more than one species.

Table 32. Summary of muskrat trapper and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=239).

Area	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers/100km2	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km2
North Zone	895 (65.3)	1.09	41.11 +/- 14.54	36774 (75.7)	44.94
South Zone	476 (34.7)	0.74	24.86 +/- 7.19	11830 (24.3)	18.42
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	..	0	..
Statewide	1370 (100.0)	0.94	35.46 +/- 9.94	48604	33.27

Table 33. Summary of mink trapper and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=135).

Area	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers/100km2	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km2
North Zone	476 (61.5)	0.58	2.75 +/- 0.69	1307 (48.3)	1.60
South Zone	298 (38.5)	0.46	4.69 +/- 2.02	1399 (51.7)	2.18
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	..	0	..
Statewide	774 (100.0)	0.53	3.50 +/- 0.92	2707	1.85

Table 34. Summary of raccoon trapper and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=314).

Area	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers/100km2	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km2
North Zone	1221 (67.8)	1.49	25.79 +/- 4.92	31498 (71.1)	38.49
South Zone	579 (32.2)	0.90	22.10 +/- 4.81	12799 (28.9)	19.92
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	..	0	..
Statewide	1801 (100.0)	1.23	24.60 +/- 3.69	44297	30.32

Table 35. Summary of opossum trapper and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=191).

Area	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers/100km2	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km2
North Zone	728 (66.5)	0.89	9.44 +/- 1.81	6875 (60.0)	8.40
South Zone	367 (33.5)	0.57	12.48 +/- 3.75	4582 (40.0)	7.13
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	..	0	..
Statewide	1095 (100.0)	0.75	10.46 +/- 1.77	11457	7.84

Table 36. Summary of red fox trapper and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=74).

Area	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers/100km2	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km2
North Zone	264 (62.2)	0.32	3.46 +/- 1.40	912 (61.4)	1.11
South Zone	161 (37.8)	0.25	3.57 +/- 1.61	573 (38.6)	0.89
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	..	0	..
Statewide	424 (100.0)	0.29	3.50 +/- 1.06	1485	1.02

Table 37. Summary of gray fox trapper and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=29).

Area	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers/100km2	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km2
North Zone	40 (24.1)	0.05	2.29 +/- 1.95	92 (22.2)	0.11
South Zone	126 (75.9)	0.20	2.55 +/- 1.02	321 (77.8)	0.50
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	..	0	..
Statewide	166 (100.0)	0.11	2.48 +/- 0.89	413	0.28

Table 38. Summary of beaver trapper and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=122).

Area	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers/100km2	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km2
North Zone	505 (72.1)	0.62	5.59 +/- 1.17	2821 (64.0)	3.45
South Zone	195 (27.9)	0.30	8.15 +/- 2.73	1588 (36.0)	2.47
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	..	0	..
Statewide	700 (100.0)	0.48	6.30 +/- 1.20	4410	3.02

Table 39. Summary of skunk trapper and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=75).

Area	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers/100km2	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km2
North Zone	327 (76.0)	0.40	3.89 +/- 0.97	1273 (76.6)	1.56
South Zone	103 (24.0)	0.16	3.78 +/- 1.46	390 (23.4)	0.61
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	..	0	..
Statewide	430 (100.0)	0.29	3.87 +/- 0.81	1663	1.14

Table 40. Summary of weasel trapper and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=2).

Area	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers/100km2	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km2
North Zone	6 (50.0)	0.01	4.00 +/- 0.00	23 (80.0)	0.03
South Zone	6 (50.0)	0.01	1.00 +/- 0.00	6 (20.0)	0.01
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	..	0	..
Statewide	11 (100.0)	0.01	2.50 +/- 4.16	29	0.02

Table 41. Summary of coyote trapper and harvest data by furbearer management zones in Illinois, 1992-93 season, based on post-season mail survey (n=91).

Area	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers	Estimated Number of Effective Trappers/100km2	Average Season Catch	Estimated Total Trapper Harvest	Estimated Trapper Harvest/100km2
North Zone	292 (56.0)	0.36	7.96 +/- 2.53	2328 (64.9)	2.84
South Zone	229 (44.0)	0.36	5.50 +/- 2.59	1262 (35.1)	1.96
Unknown	0 (0.0)	..	..	0	..
Statewide	522 (100.0)	0.36	6.88 +/- 1.85	3590	2.46

Table 42. Attitudes of trappers and hunters toward the importance of maintaining the European market for wild furs caught in the United States. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the following question,

"The European Economic Community (EEC) recently passed a resolution to restrict the international trade of wild fur. Beginning on January 1, 1995, all countries in the EEC plan to prohibit the importation of most types of wild furs harvested in countries which have not banned the leghold trap OR agreed to use only traps which meet internationally agreed upon humane standards. Since 70% or more of all wild furs caught in the United States are eventually sold in Europe, failure to comply with this mandate might mean that the pelt value of most Illinois furbearers would drop drastically (even lower than current prices).

Given the above facts, do you think it is important to maintain the European market for wild furs caught in the United States?"

	Trappers (355)	Hunters (1,816)
*Very important, even if leghold traps must be totally eliminated	10.4%	24.1%
*Very important, but only if leghold traps can continue to be used for some species like raccoon, foxes, and coyotes	46.5	29.0
*Not important enough to eliminate or restrict the use of leghold traps	28.5	14.8
*Don't know or undecided	14.6	32.1

Table 43. Attitudes of active trappers toward participating in a short, additional trapping season in which trappers could use only padded-jaw (soft catch) traps. The sample size is in parentheses.

Responses to the following question, "Would you participate in a short, additional trapping season in which trappers could use only padded-jaw (Soft Catch) traps?"	(359)
*Yes, regardless of whether the additional season was before or after the regular season.	15.6%
*Yes, but only if the additional season was BEFORE the current season.	4.5
*Yes, but only if the additional season was AFTER the current season.	10.3
*No, regardless of the dates for the additional season.	36.5
*Don't know or undecided	33.2

Table 44. Attitudes of trappers and hunters toward legalizing snares for land sets in Illinois. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

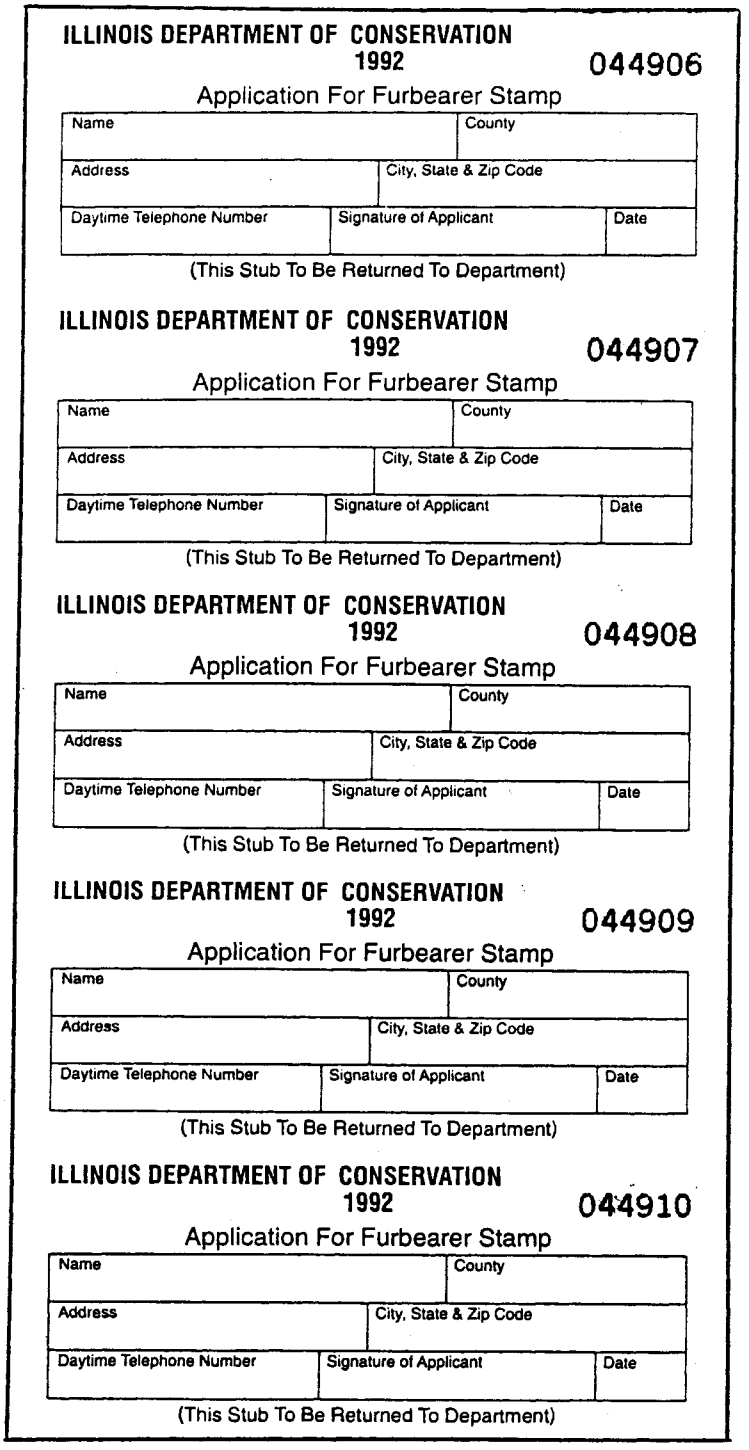
Responses to the question,
"Certain types of snares were legalized for water-set trapping in Illinois beginning in 1990. What is your attitude toward the legalization of snares for LAND sets in Illinois?"

	Trappers (360)	Hunters (1,784)
*All trappers should be allowed to use LAND sets	25.4%	12.0%
*Only those trappers who take and successfully pass a special land snaring education course should be allowed to use land sets	34.7	19.4
*All land snaring for furbearers should remain illegal	18.6	39.1
*Don't know or undecided	20.3	29.5

Table 45. Assessments by fur hunters and trappers as to changes in furbearer populations from 1991-92 to 1992-93. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Species		Percentage of Active Hunters			
		Up	Unchanged	Down	Don't Know
Muskrat	(1,350)	12.7	15.0	9.6	62.7
Raccoon	(1,625)	47.3	22.0	10.6	20.1
Red Fox	(1,471)	24.4	22.5	22.5	30.6
Beaver	(1,351)	25.4	12.2	4.3	58.1
Coyote	(1,689)	64.5	15.5	7.0	13.0

Species		Percentage of Active Trappers			
		Up	Unchanged	Down	Don't Know
Muskrat	(346)	23.1	26.6	27.7	22.6
Raccoon	(358)	63.1	19.8	8.7	8.4
Red Fox	(332)	22.3	24.4	28.0	25.3
Beaver	(338)	44.7	20.1	6.5	28.7
Coyote	(337)	64.4	11.3	7.7	16.6



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
1992 **044906**

Application For Furbearer Stamp

Name	County
Address	City, State & Zip Code
Daytime Telephone Number	Signature of Applicant / Date

(This Stub To Be Returned To Department)

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
1992 **044907**

Application For Furbearer Stamp

Name	County
Address	City, State & Zip Code
Daytime Telephone Number	Signature of Applicant / Date

(This Stub To Be Returned To Department)

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
1992 **044908**

Application For Furbearer Stamp

Name	County
Address	City, State & Zip Code
Daytime Telephone Number	Signature of Applicant / Date

(This Stub To Be Returned To Department)

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
1992 **044909**

Application For Furbearer Stamp

Name	County
Address	City, State & Zip Code
Daytime Telephone Number	Signature of Applicant / Date

(This Stub To Be Returned To Department)

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
1992 **044910**

Application For Furbearer Stamp

Name	County
Address	City, State & Zip Code
Daytime Telephone Number	Signature of Applicant / Date

(This Stub To Be Returned To Department)

Figure 1. The stubs that were attached to the 1992 Illinois Furbearer stamps.

1992-93
Illinois Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey

INSTRUCTIONS

Proper management of Illinois' furbearing resources requires information about fur hunters and trappers, their activities, and opinions. The Department of Conservation is asking you to participate in the management of our state's furbearing resources by completing this questionnaire.

When completing this questionnaire, **please include only YOUR PERSONAL furbearer hunting and trapping activities in Illinois** during the 1992-93 season.

If you did not hunt or trap furbearers in Illinois during the 1992-93 season, please answer the first five (5) questions and return this form.

This questionnaire is divided into four (4) parts: General Information, Furbearer Hunting, Furbearer Trapping, and Other Topics. Depending on your personal activities, you may be asked to complete all or parts of the questionnaire.

If you can't remember exact figures, please give your best estimates.

When you complete the questionnaire, please insert it into the pre-addressed envelope and drop it in the mail. **POSTAGE IS PRE-PAID.**

Please note that **YOUR RESPONSES ARE STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**, and will NEVER be associated with your name. Because you are part of a small, randomly selected group, **YOUR PARTICIPATION IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT.**

If you would like to make comments about this questionnaire or other topics related to furbearer management, **please write your comments on a separate sheet of paper** so that they receive proper attention and don't interfere with tabulation of your responses to the questionnaire.

Figure 2. The questionnaire used for the 1992-93 Illinois Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey.

Figure 2 - continued.

PART 1 - GENERAL INFORMATION

1. How many 1992 Illinois State Furbearer Stamps did you purchase for **your personal use**?

_____ stamps

2. For what reason(s) did you purchase a 1992 Illinois State Furbearer Stamp? (*Circle all numbers that apply*)

a. My own hunting of furbearers . . . 1
b. My own trapping of furbearers . . . 2
c. My own stamp collecting 3
d. To support wildlife conservation . . 4
e. For use as a gift 5
f. Other (write in) _____ . 6

3. How old were you on your last birthday? . . . . . _____ years

4. In what type of area do you currently live? (*Circle only one number*)

a. Rural (country, farm, town less than 500 people) . . . 1
b. Small town (500 to 20,000 people) 2
c. Suburban area (close to a large city) 3
d. Urban area (in a large city) 4

5. Please indicate the type(s) and number(s) of 1992 Illinois hunting and/or trapping licenses you purchased. (*Circle appropriate number for each license purchased*)

	Number of Licenses Purchased
a. Resident hunting **and/or** resident Sportsman's (combination hunting and fishing) license(s)	1 . . . 2 . . . 3
b. Resident trapping license(s)	1 . . . 2 . . . 3
c. Non-resident hunting (5-day **and/or** full season) license(s)	1 . . . 2 . . . 3
d. Non-resident trapping license(s)	1 . . . 2 . . . 3
e. Other (write in) _____	1 . . . 2 . . . 3

PART 2 - FURBEARER HUNTING

6. Did you HUNT furbearers in Illinois during the 1992-93 season? (*Circle number for appropriate answer*)

Yes . . . 1 No . . . 2

If YES, continue with Question #7. **If NO**, go to Question #15.

7. Were any members of your immediate family licensed hunters at or before the time that you bought **your VERY FIRST** hunting license? (*Circle number for appropriate answer*)

Yes . . . 1 No . . . 2 Don't recall . . . 3

Figure 2. Continued - page 2.

8. Fill in ALL FIVE BLANKS for each kind of furbearer you hunted in Illinois during the 1992-93 season. REPORT ONLY YOUR PERSONAL KILL. DO NOT report the kill of others with whom you may have hunted.

If you hunted both raccoons and opossums at the same time, count the day toward your primary target - that is, primarily raccoons or primarily opossums. If you hunted both red foxes and coyotes at the same time, count the day toward your primary target - that is, primarily red foxes or primarily coyotes.

Species	*Number of DAYS HUNTED*	*Number KILLED*	*Number SOLD in Illinois*	*Number SOLD Out of State*	*Number NOT SOLD*
Raccoon	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Opossum	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Red fox	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Coyote	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Gray fox	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Skunk	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Fox & coyote chasing with dogs for sport only and not to kill	_____	NA	NA	NA	NA

9. In which county or counties did you HUNT furbearers in Illinois during the 1992-93 season?

County hunted most . . _____
Second most . . . . . _____
Third most . . . . . _____

10. Did you use a PREDATOR CALL to HUNT FOXES OR COYOTES in Illinois during the 1992-93 season? (*Circle number for apprpriate answer*)

Yes . . . 1 No . . . 2

If YES, continue with Question #11. **If NO**, go to Question #15.

11. Please indicate the type(s) of predator call you used to hunt foxes and/or coyotes during the 1992-93 season. (*Circle all numbers that apply*)

a. Electronic (battery-operated) call 1
b. Mouth-blown manual call with brass reed 2
c. Mouth-blown manual call with open (plastic) reed 3
d. Hand-operated manual call which is shaken 4
e. No mechanical call used; make sounds with my mouth, lips 5
f. Other (specify) _____ 6

12. When you hunt with a predator call, do you usually hunt: (*Circle number for appropriate answer*)

a. Alone 1
b. With one other person 2
c. With two or more other persons 3

13. When you hunt with a predator call, at what time of day do you do *most* of your calling? (*Circle only one number for appropriate answer*)

a. At night 1
b. At dawn and/or dusk 2
c. During the daylight hours 3

Figure 2. Continued - page 3.

14. What type of weapon do you use most often when hunting foxes and/or coyotes with a predator call? (*Circle only one number for appropriate answer*)

a. Shotgun . . 1 b. Centerfire rifle . . . . 2 c. .22 rimfire rifle 3
d. Handgun . . 4 e. Bow and arrow . . . 5 f. Other (specify below) 6

_____

PART 3 - FURBEARER TRAPPING

15. Did you SET ANY TRAPS for furbearers in Illinois during the 1992-93 season? (*Circle number for appropriate answer*)

Yes . . . 1 No . . . 2

If YES, continue with Question #16. **If NO**, go to Question #26.

16. Were any members of your immediate family licensed trappers at or before the time that you bought **your VERY FIRST** trapping license? (*Circle number for appropriate answer*)

Yes . . . 1 No . . . 2 Don't recall . . . 3

17. In which COUNTY did you do MOST of your trapping?

_____ County, Illinois

18. On how many different days (or nights) did you have traps set?

_____ days (or nights)

19. What was the AVERAGE number of traps you had set on your trapline during the 1992-93 season?

_____ traps

20. Fill in ALL FOUR BLANKS for each kind of furbearer you trapped in Illinois during the 1992-93 season. REPORT ONLY YOUR PERSONAL CATCH. If you trapped in partnership with another person, list only your half of the catch.

Species	*Number CAUGHT in traps*	*Number SOLD in Illinois*	*Number SOLD Out of State*	*Number NOT SOLD*
Muskrat				
Mink				
Raccoon				
Opossum				
Red fox				
Gray fox				
Beaver				
Skunk				
Weasel				
Coyote				

Figure 2. Continued - page 4.

21. Are you currently a member of a trapping club or organization like Fur-takers, National Trappers Association, or Illinois Trappers' Association?

Yes . . . 1 No . . . 2

22. Did you (or do you plan to) set any SNARES for beaver during the 1992-93 trapping season? (*Circle number for appropriate answer*)

Yes . . . 1 No . . . 2

23. Would you participate in a short, additional trapping season in which trappers could use only padded-jaw (Soft Catch) traps? (*Circle number for appropriate answer*)

a. Yes, regardless of whether the additional season was before or after the regular season 1
b. Yes, but only if the additional season was BEFORE the current season 2
c. Yes, but only if the additional season was AFTER the current season 3
d. No, regardless of the dates for the additional season 4
e. Don't know or undecided 5

24. How many traps of the following types do you own? (Enter the number of traps of each type that you own; do not include antiques, collector's items, or broken, unuseable traps)

Coil-Spring Foot-hold Traps	Long-Spring Foot-hold Traps	Body-gripping (Conibear) Traps
_____ #1	_____ #1	_____ #110
_____ #1½	_____ #1½	_____ #120
_____ #1¾	_____ #2	_____ #160
_____ #2	_____ #3	_____ #220
_____ #3	_____ #4	_____ #280
_____ #4	_____ #11 (#1 double-spring)	_____ #330
	_____ #1 Stop-loss	
_____ #1 Padded		
_____ #3 Padded		
_____ #1½ Padded		

_____ Box (Cage) Traps

Other Traps (Specify type and number owned)

Size & Type	# Owned	Size & Type	# Owned

25. Do you own any traps with laminated jaws?

Yes . . . 1 No . . . 2

PART 4 - OTHER TOPICS

26. Compared to 1991-92 (last season), were the populations of the following furbearers up, unchanged, or down during 1992-93 (this season)? (*Express your opinion by circling the appropriate number for each species*)

Species	Up	Unchanged	Down	Don't Know
Muskrat	1	2	3	4
Raccoon	1	2	3	4
Red fox	1	2	3	4
Beaver	1	2	3	4
Coyote	1	2	3	4

Figure 2. Continued - page 5.

27. Certain types of snares were legalized for water-set trapping in Illinois beginning in 1990. What is your attitude toward the legalization of snares for LAND sets in Illinois? (*Circle number for appropriate answer*)

a. All trappers should be allowed to use snares for LAND sets 1
b. Only those trappers who take and successfully pass a special land snaring education course should be allowed to use snares for LAND sets 2
c. All LAND snaring for furbearers should remain illegal 3
d. Don't know or undecided 4

28. Do you buy or subscribe to any of the following publications? (*Circle numbers for all that apply*)

a. American Cooner 1
b. Coonhound Bloodlines 2
c. Fur Fish & Game 3
d. Trapper and Predator Caller 4
e. American Trapper 5
f. Fur Taker 6
g. Outdoor Highlights 7

29. The European Economic Community (EEC) recently passed a resolution to restrict the international trade of wild fur. Beginning on January 1, 1995, all countries in the EEC plan to prohibit the importation of most types of wild furs harvested in countries which have not banned the leghold trap OR agreed to use only traps which meet internationally agreed upon humane standards. Since 70% or more of all wild furs caught in the United States are eventually sold in Europe, failure to comply with this mandate might mean that the pelt value of most Illinois furbearers would drop drastically (even lower than current prices).

Given the above facts, do you think it is important or not important to maintain the European market for wild furs caught in the United States? (*Circle number for appropriate answer*)

a. Very important, even if leghold traps must be totally eliminated 1
b. Important, but only if leghold traps can continue to be used for some species like raccoon, foxes, and coyotes 2
c. Not important enough to eliminate or restrict the use of leghold traps 3
d. Don't know or undecided 4

Thank You for Your Cooperation

POSTAGE IS PREPAID

Figure 2. Continued - page 6.

Illinois Department of Conservation
life and land together

Brent Manning
Director

John W. Comerio
Deputy Director

Bruce F. Clay
Assistant Director

LINCOLN TOWER PLAZA • 524 SOUTH SECOND STREET • SPRINGFIELD 62701-1787
CHICAGO OFFICE • ROOM 4-300 • 100 WEST RANDOLPH 60601

1992-93

Dear Illinois Fur Hunter/Trapper:

The harvest of fur-bearing animals is one of the few field and stream sports that is tied to our economy through a return from the crop. In the 1991-92 season, there were 259,429 pelts sold by Illinois fur-takers for a value to them of $1,465,624. We need information on the hunted and trapped portions of the catch for the 1992-93 season.

You can make an important contribution to the future management of Illinois' fur harvests and hunting and trapping activities by completing the enclosed questionnaire. The questionnaire is self-explanatory. Please read the questionnaire carefully and answer all questions that apply to you.

The information requested from you and other hunters and trappers is used in determinimg harvest, hunting/trapping success, hunting/trapping pressure, and hunter/trapper characteristics on a statewide basis. These facts are necessary for a better understanding of how regulations affect your hunting and trapping and the welfare of the furbearer populations. Also, with your help, the future of sport hunting and trapping will be assured.

Please take a few minutes and fill out the questionnaire. If you do not remember exact figures, please give your best estimate. If you hunted with 1 or more other persons, list only the furbearers you personally killed. Also, if you trapped in partnership with another person, list only your half of the catch. Drop the completed questionnaire in the mail; no postage is required. Please reply even if you did not hunt or trap this season, or you were not successful.

Yours for better hunting and trapping.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Ver Steeg
Chief
Division of Wildlife Resources

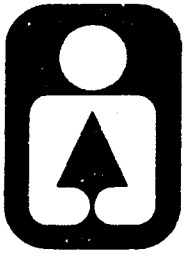
JMV:WLA:lc
Enclosure
F1

Figure 3. The letter that accompanied the first mailing of the questionnaire.

Brent Manning
Director

John W. Comerio
Deputy Director

Bruce F. Clay
Assistant Director



Illinois Department of Conservation
life and land together

LINCOLN TOWER PLAZA • 524 SOUTH SECOND STREET • SPRINGFIELD 62701-1787
CHICAGO OFFICE • ROOM 4-300 • 100 WEST RANDOLPH 60601

Dear Illinois Fur Hunter/Trapper:

Recently we mailed to you a Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey questionnaire and requested that you fill out and return the completed form. We have not received your form at this time - perhaps because you have misplaced the questionnaire or haven't found time to complete it and return it to us.

We are enclosing another questionnaire which we hope you will complete and return as soon as possible. If you have already returned a questionnaire, please destroy this one. The information supplied by you and other hunters and trappers being sampled will be of great value to the Conservation Department in better directing the management of the Illinois furbearer resources.

Please fill out the form completely and return it <u>even if you did not hunt or trap, or, you were not successful.</u> If you hunted with 1 or more other persons, list only the furbearers <u>you personally</u> killed. Also, if you trapped in partnership with another person, please list only your half of the catch. No postage is required to return the completed questionnaire. Simply fill it out and drop it in the mail.

Your prompt attention will be greatly appreciated. Thank You.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Ver Steeg
Chief
Division of Wildlife Resources

JMV:BA:lc
Enclosure

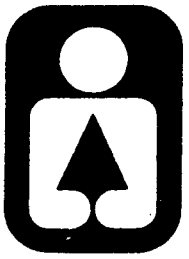
F2

Figure 4. The letter that accompanied the second mailing of the questionnaire.

Brent Manning
Director

John W. Comerio
Deputy Director

Bruce F. Clay
Assistant Director



Illinois Department of Conservation
life and land together

LINCOLN TOWER PLAZA • 524 SOUTH SECOND STREET • SPRINGFIELD 62701-1787
CHICAGO OFFICE • ROOM 4-300 • 100 WEST RANDOLPH 60601

Dear Illinois Fur Hunter/Trapper:

This is to remind you that we would still like to receive an answer to the questionnaire concerning your hunting and trapping of furbearers this past season. We don't like to keep bothering you, but this is very important information which only you can supply.

Another copy of the questionnaire is enclosed. We hope you will complete and return it as soon as possible. If you have already returned a questionnaire, simply destroy this one. We are making a final effort to obtain a complete response so that we may compile the information received from all cooperating hunters and trappers and prepare a report of our findings. Remember, your response is needed - even though you did not hunt or trap, or you had an unsuccessful season. If you hunted with 1 or more other persons, list only the furbearers you personally killed. Also, if you trapped in partnership with another person, kindly list only your half of the catch.

No postage is required to return the completed questionnaire. Just fill it out and drop it in the mail. Please help us complete this survey by sending it in now!

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Ver Steeg
Chief
Division of Wildlife Resources

JMV:BA:lc
Enclosure

F3

Figure 5. The letter that accompanied the third mailing of the questionnaire.

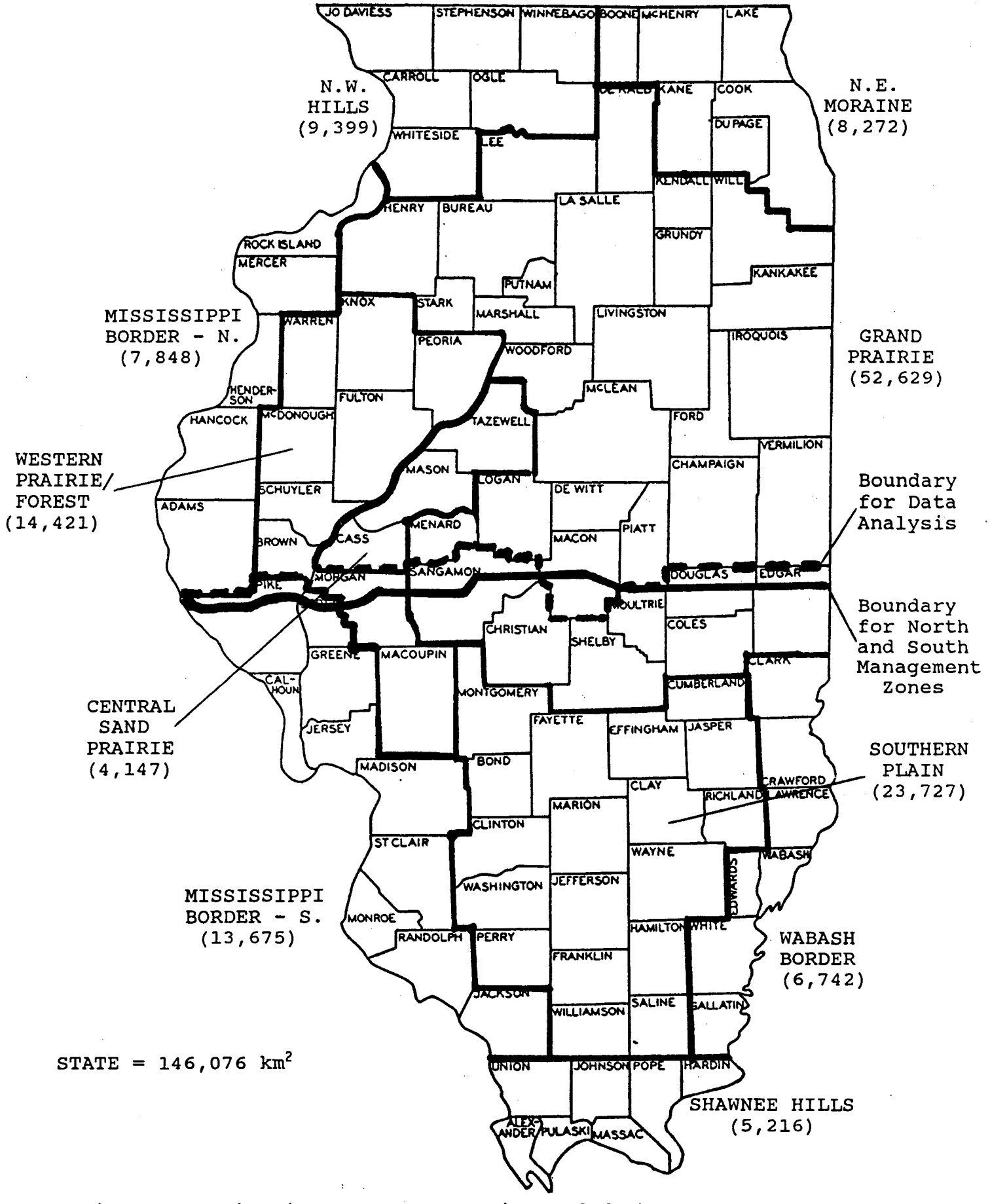


Figure 6. Wildlife management units and furbearer management zones in Illinois.

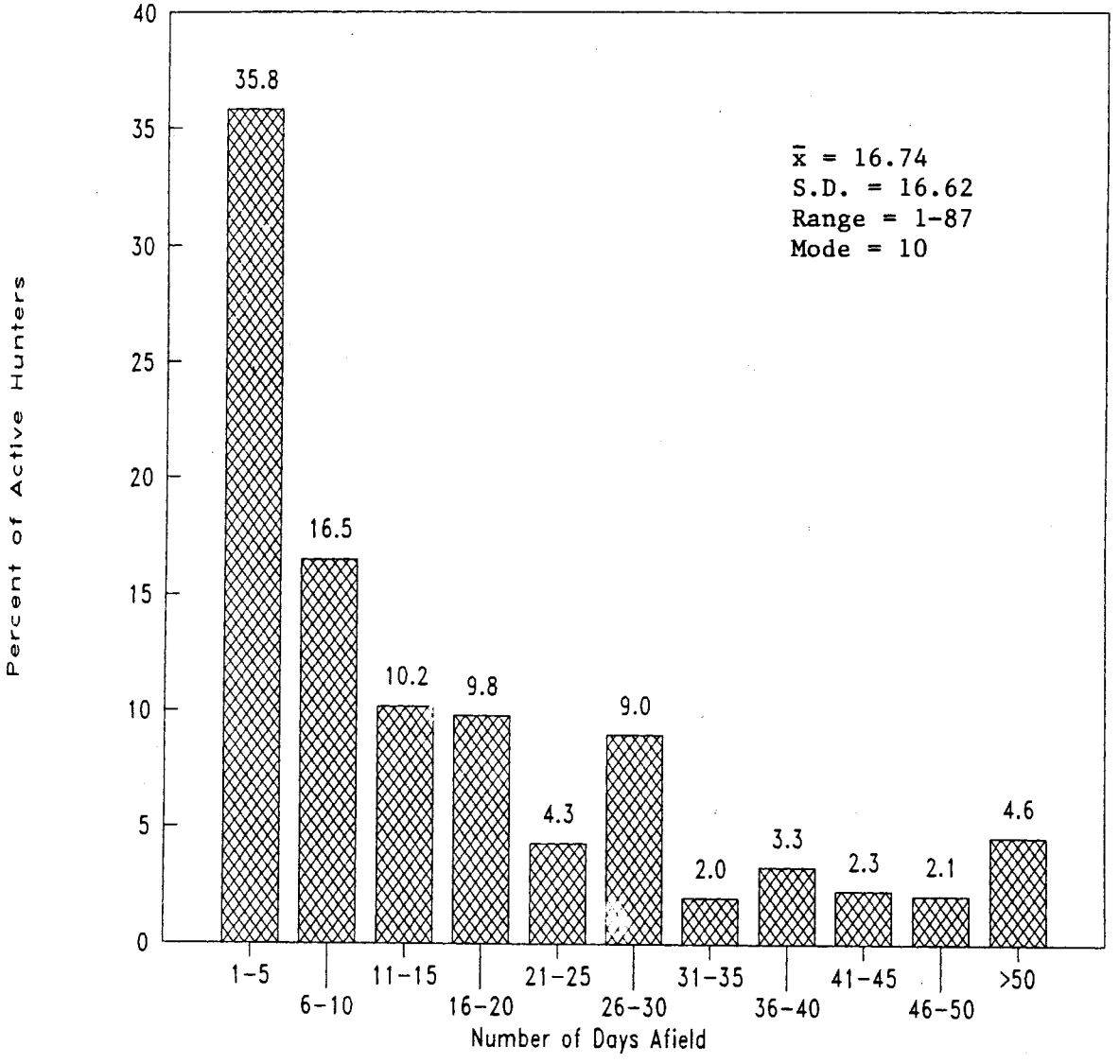


Figure 7. Distribution of days afield by active raccoon hunters in Illinois, 1992-93 season (n = 979).

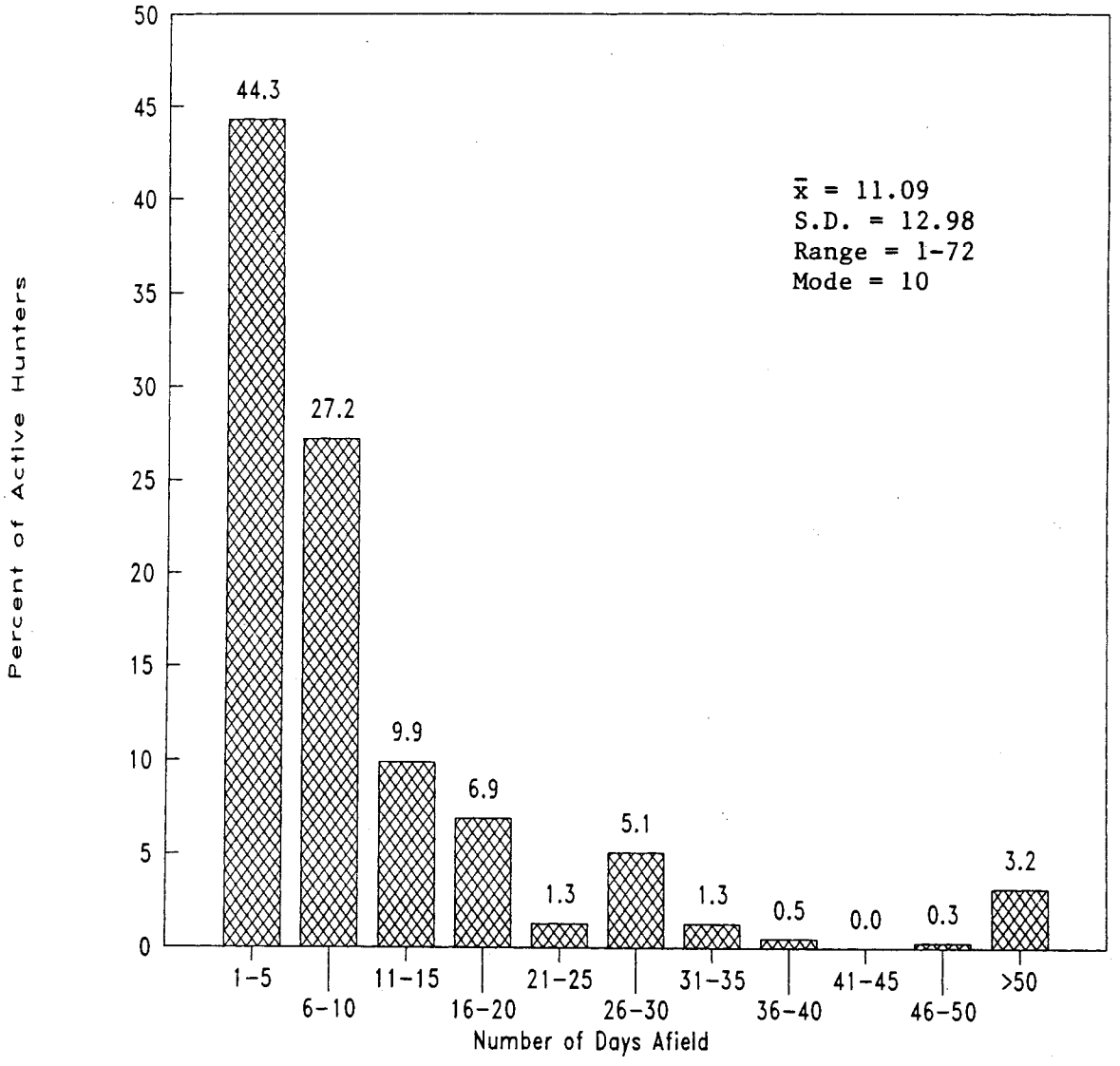


Figure 8. Distribution of days afield by active red fox hunters in Illinois, 1992-93 season (n = 375).

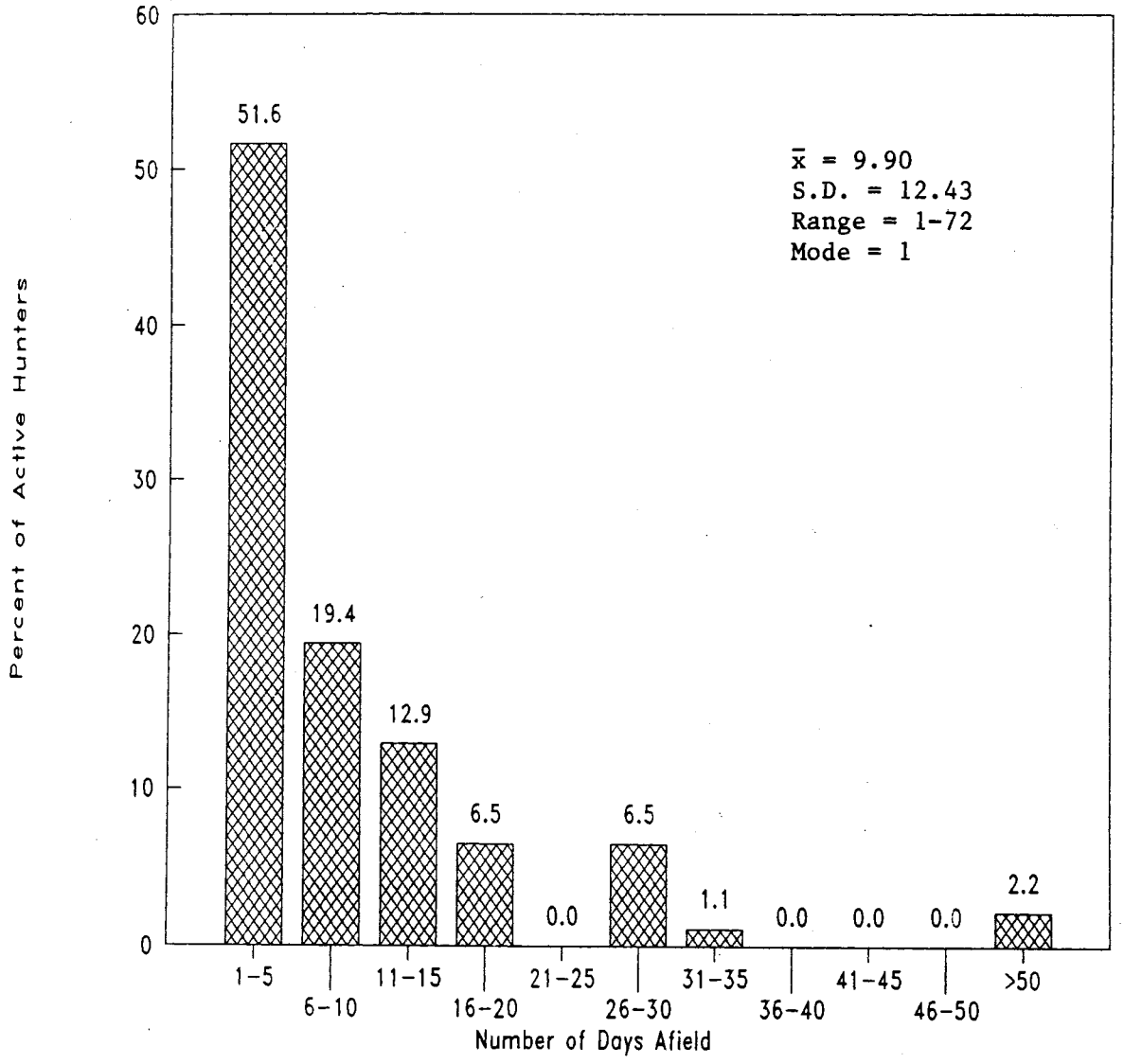


Figure 9. Distribution of days afield by active gray fox hunters in Illinois, 1992-93 season (n = 93).

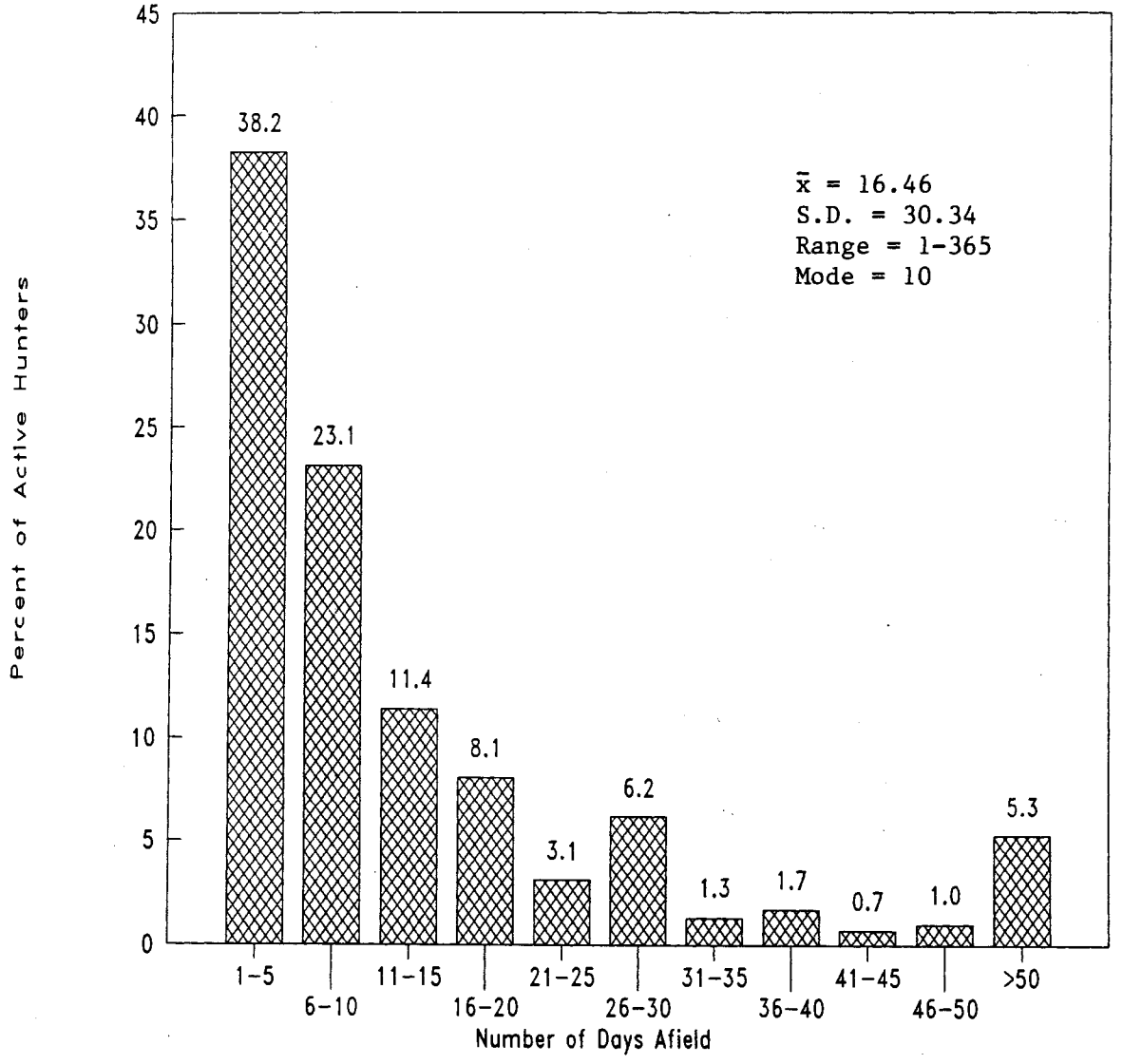


Figure 10. Distribution of days afield by active coyote hunters in Illinois, 1992-93 season (n = 1,339).

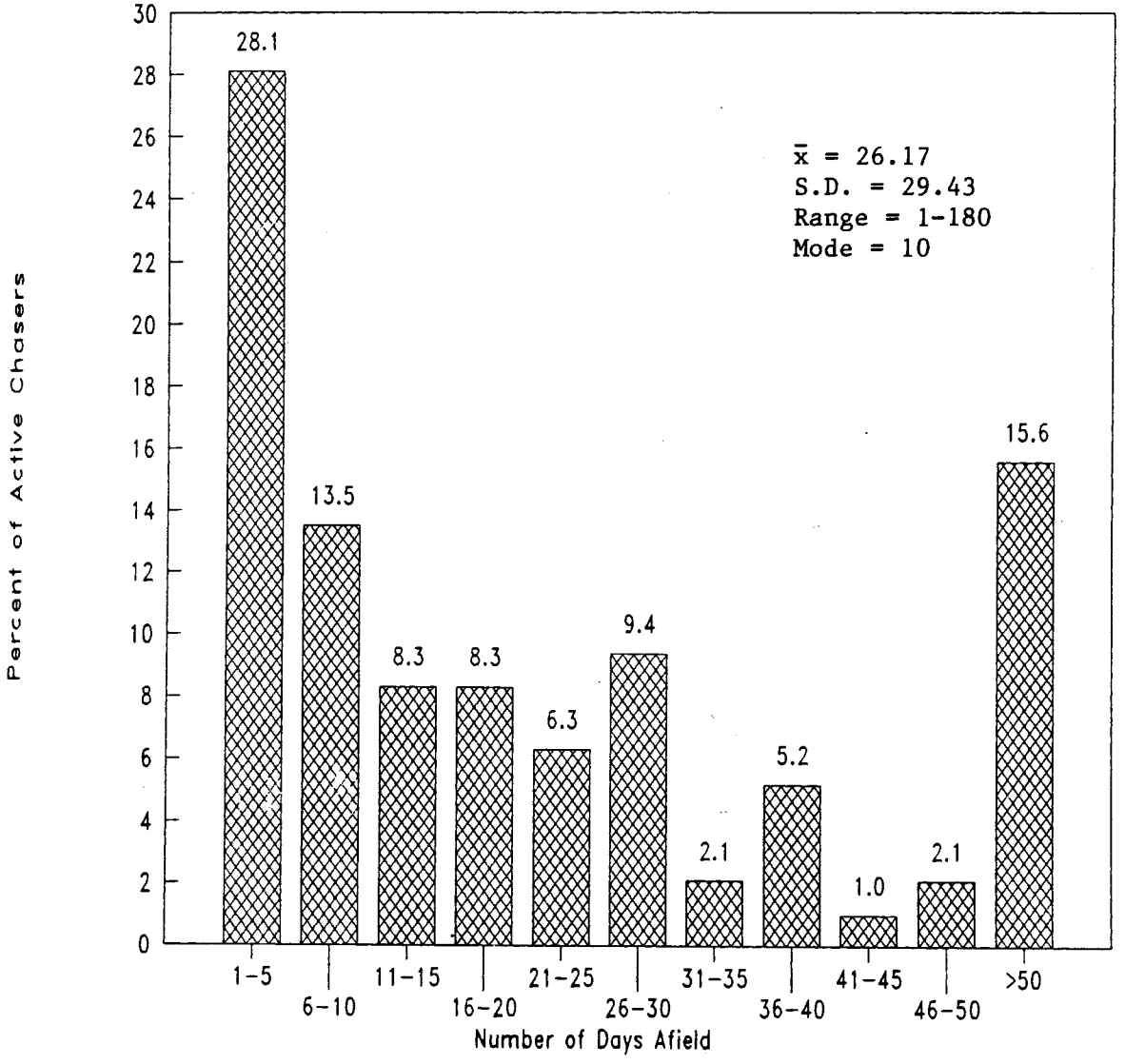


Figure 11. Distribution of days afield by active wild canid chasers in Illinois, 1992-93 season (n = 92).

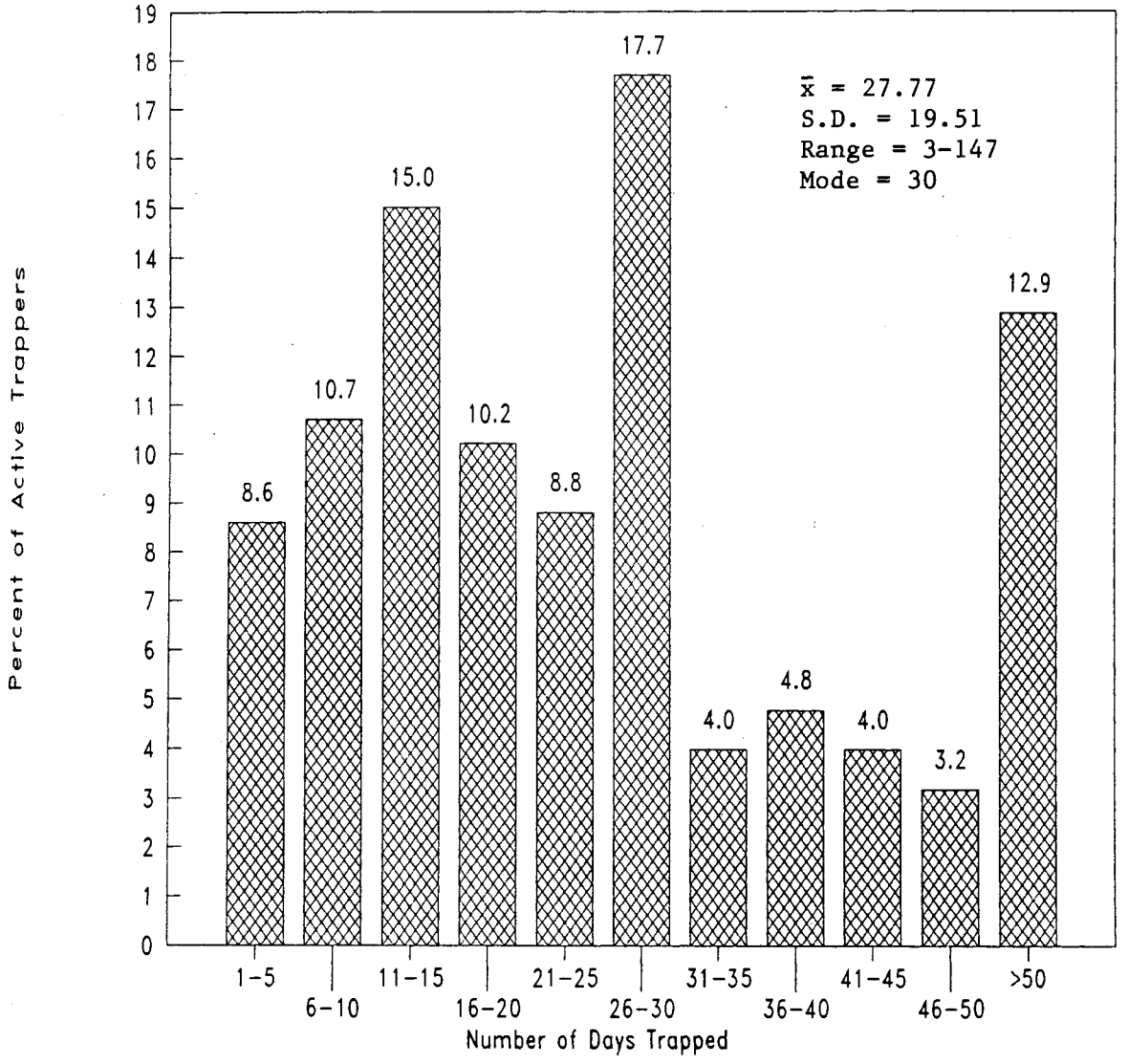


Figure 12. Distribution of days trapped by active trappers in Illinois, 1992-93 season (n = 373).

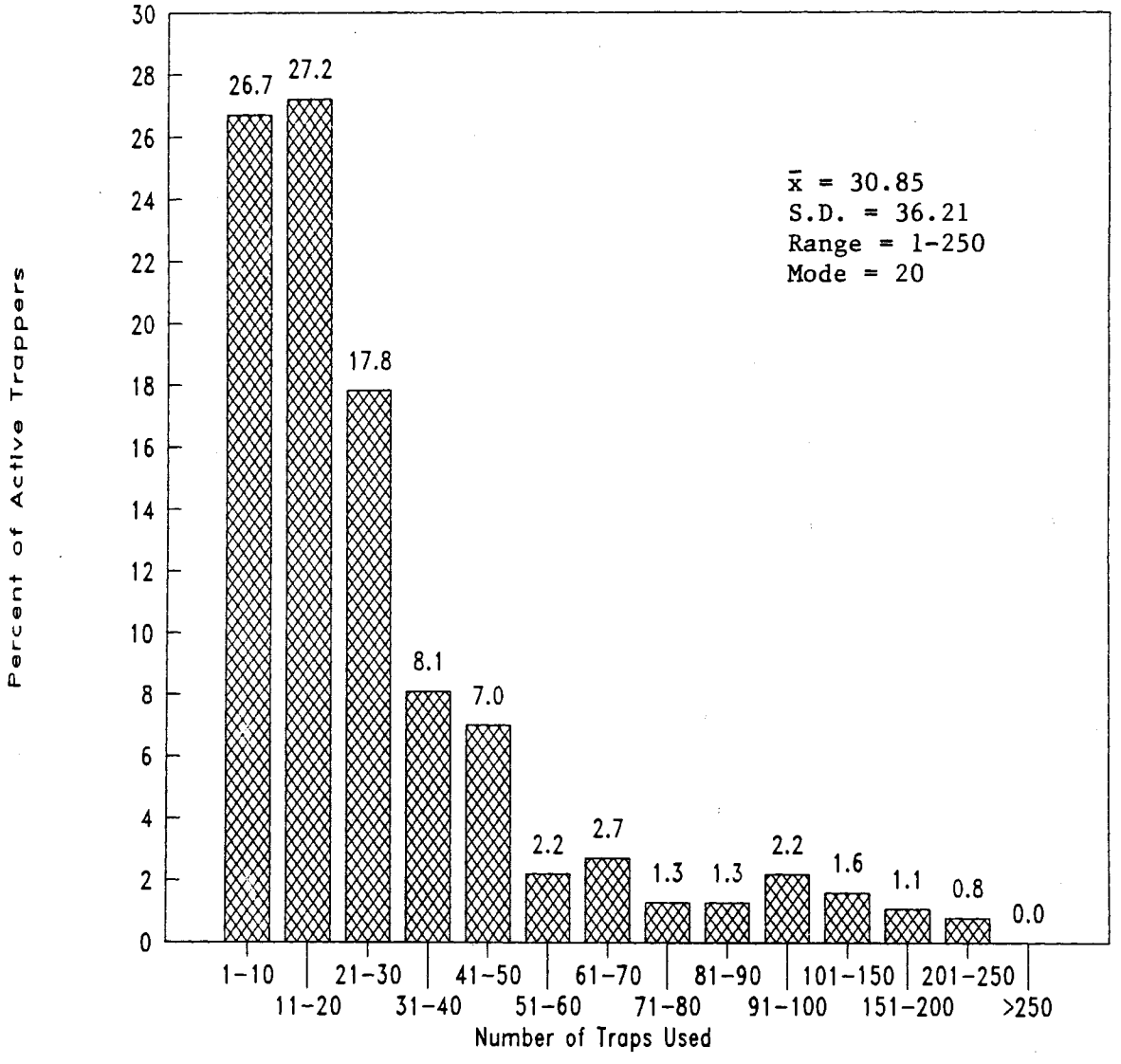


Figure 13. Distribution of number of traps used by active trappers in Illinois, 1992-93 season (n = 371).

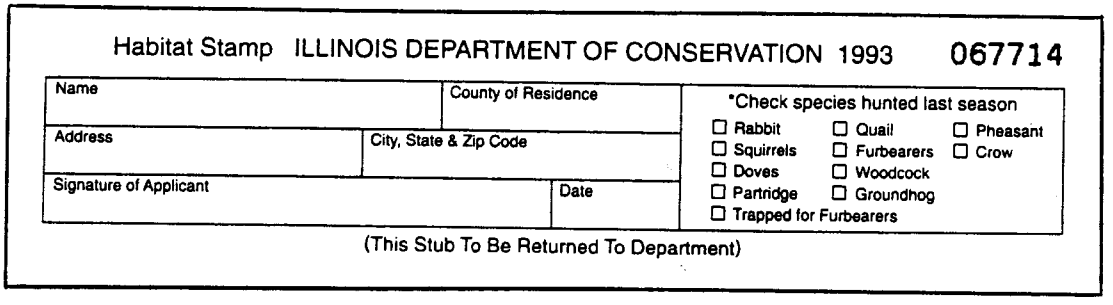


Figure 14. The design of the stub that was attached to the 1993 Illinois Habitat Stamp.

APPENDIX A

This appendix consists of 2 tables which present (1) estimates of the number of Illinois fur hunters and their harvest via the Hunter Harvest Survey (Anderson and Campbell 1993b) versus the Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey (present study), and (2) estimates of the number of pelts sold in Illinois via the Fur Harvest Survey (R.D. Bluett, unpubl. data) versus the Fur Hunter/Trapper survey.

Table A1. Number of active fur hunters and their harvest in Illinois in 1992-93 as estimated with the Hunter Harvest Survey and Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Species	Hunter Harvest Survey[a]	Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey[b]
	Number of Hunters	
Raccoon	19,483 ± 2,534[a] (222)	8,657 ± 427 (979)
Opossum	5,617 ± 1,392 (64)	1,070 ± 190 (121)
Red fox	7,109 ± 1,562 (81)	3,316 ± 315 (375)
Gray fox	2,721 ± 973 (31)	822 ± 167 (93)
Coyote	33,349 ± 3,237 (380)	11,840 ± 433 (1,339)
	Total Harvest	
Raccoon	388,692 ± 205,749	141,588 ± 14,219
Opossum	19,220 ± 28,066	4,598 ± 1,368
Red fox	12,111 ± 21,312	4,218 ± 889
Gray fox	1,404 ± 8,758	478 ± 270
Coyote	94,606 ± 32,360	36,060 ± 4,234
	Harvest Per Active Hunter	
Raccoon	19.95 ± 2.57	16.36 ± 1.40
Opossum	3.42 ± 0.65	4.30 ± 1.01
Red fox	1.70 ± 0.44	1.27 ± 0.24
Gray fox	0.52 ± 0.29	0.58 ± 0.30
Coyote	2.84 ± 0.31	3.05 ± 0.33

[a]Anderson and Campbell (1993b).

[b]Present study.

[c]95% confidence interval.

Table A2. Number of pelts sold by fur-takers in Illinois in 1992-93 as estimated by the Fur Harvest Survey and Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey.

Species	Fur Harvest Survey[a]	Fur Hunter/Trapper Survey[b]
Muskrat	45,593[c]	35,839[c]
Mink	2,309	1,732
Raccoon	99,990	127,693
Opossum	6,006	7,497
Red fox	1,876	3,104
Gray fox	347	542
Beaver	1,917	1,881
Striped skunk	120	183
Weasel	2	6
Coyote	8,812	17,407
Total	166,972	195,884

[a]R.D. Bluett (unpubl.data).

[b]Present study.

[c]Pelts sold in Illinois only.